

## PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

# Grand Lodge Ancient Free and Accepted Masons,

OF MINNESOTA,

AT ITS EIGHTH GRAND ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, IN THE CITY OF  
ST. PAUL, COMMENCING OCTOBER 25TH, A. L. 5859.

### FIRST DAY.

A large number of brethren being present, at 12 o'clock, M., the Most Worshipful Grand Master opened a Master Mason's ☐ in ample form.

M. W. A. T. C. PIERSON, Grand Master.  
R. W. E. B. AMES, Senior Warden.  
R. W. A. C. SMITH, Junior Warden.  
R. W. E. CASE, Treasurer.  
R. W. GEO. W. PRESCOTT, Secretary.  
W. J. M. KERLINGER, Senior Deacon.  
W. J. C. WHIPPLE, Junior Deacon.  
W. A. RICHARDSON, Tyler.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Bros. A. J. Edgerton and J. S. Campbell, to assist the Grand Secretary as a Committee on Credentials, and thereupon the ☐ was called from labor to refreshment until 2 o'clock this afternoon.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The ☐ was called from refreshment to labor by the M. W. Grand Master.

The Grand Secretary from the Committee on Credentials, reported the following Representatives from Subordinate ☐ present:

St. John's ☐, No. 1.—H. R. Murdock, Senior Warden.

Cataract ☐, No. 2—W. G. Bradford, Junior Warden.

Henry Reynolds, Past Master.

St. Paul ☐, No. 3—G. W. Merrill, Worshipful Master.

A. B. Curry, Junior Warden.

Hennepin ☐, No. 4—E. B. Ames, Worshipful Master.

C. N. Daniels, Senior Warden.

Ancient Landmark ☐, No. 5—Freeman James, Senior Warden.

I. P. Wright, Past Master.

Shakopee ☐, No. 6—J. M. Kerlinger, Worshipful Master.

Dakota ☐, No. 7—C. P. Adams, Worshipful Master.

Red Wing ☐, No. 8—F. Joss, Senior Warden.

Faribault ☐, No. 9—J. C. Whipple, Worshipful Master.

Pacific ☐, No. 10—N. P. Langford, Worshipful Master.

A. Levering, Senior Warden.

W. H. Wolff, Past Master.

Mantorville ☐, No. 11—A. J. Edgerton, Proxy.

Mankato ☐, No. 12—Lewis Branson, Worshipful Master.

Wm. S. Sargent, Senior Warden.

Monticello ☐, No. 16—S. E. Adams, Proxy.

Winona ☐, No. 18—J. S. Campbell, Worshipful Master.

Minneapolis ☐, No. 19—Jos. Dean, Worshipful Master.

R. R. Miles, Junior Warden.

Pleasant Grove ☐, No. 22—Geo. W. Green, Worshipful Master.

Blue Earth ☐, No. 27—Loyal Dudley, Worshipful Master.

Clear Water ☐, No. 28—W. T. Rigby, Worshipful Master.

The Representatives from a constitutional number of ☐ being present, the Most Worshipful Grand ☐ of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Minnesota, was opened in ample form.

#### GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. A. T. C. PIERSON, Grand Master.

R. W. WM. H. MOWER, as Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. E. B. AMES, as Senior Grand Warden.

R. W. S. E. ADAMS, Junior Grand Warden.

R. W. EMANUEL CASE, Grand Treasurer.

R. W. GEO. W. PRESCOTT, Grand Secretary.

W. LEWIS BRANSON, Grand Marshal.

W. J. S. CAMPBELL, as Grand Standard Bearer.

W. LOYAL DUDLEY, as Grand Sword Bearer.

W. G. W. GREEN, as Senior Grand Deacon.

W. J. C. WHIPPLE, Grand Pursuivant.

W. A. RICHARDSON, Grand Tyler.

#### PAST ELECTIVE GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. A. E. AMES, Past Grand Master.

R. W. D. F. BRAWLEY, Past Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. A. C. SMITH, Past Grand Junior Warden.

Prayer was offered by M. W. Brother Ames, acting as Grand Chaplain.

Printed Proceedings of the last Grand Annual Communication being in the hands of the members, the reading thereof was, on motion, dispensed with.

On motion of M. W. Bro. A. E. Ames,

*Resolved*, That all Master Masons in good and regular standing, be invited to take seats in this Grand ☐ during its session.

The M. W. Grand Master announced the appointment of the following Standing Committees:

On Returns of ☐, Bros. Wm. H. Mower, Andrew Levering, and Joseph Dean.

On Work of ☐, Bros. H. Reynolds, N. P. Langford, and H. R. Murdock.

On Examination of Secretary's and Treasurer's books, Bros. D. B. Loomis, J. Kerlinger, and Freeman James.

On Visiting Brethren, Bros. A. E. Ames and I. P. Wright.

On Appeals and Grievances, Bros. A. C. Smith, A. J. Edgerton, L. Branson, W. G. Bradford, and C. W. Carpenter.

On Unfinished Business, Bros. C. P. Adams, G. W. Green, and J. C. Whipple.

On Ancient Landmarks, Bros. E. B. Ames, Loyal Dudley, and G. W. Merrill.

R. W. Brother Mower offered the following, which was unanimously adopted :

*Whereas*, It has been decided in this Grand ☐, that a proxy must have arrived at the rank of Warden *within this jurisdiction*, and

*Whereas*, Meridian ☐, No. 25, under a misapprehension of the meaning of the Constitution of this Grand ☐, has sent, as its proxy, a brother who is only a Past Warden of another jurisdiction, therefore,

*Resolved*, That the expenses and per diem of Brother J. H. McKenney be allowed him by this Grand ☐, the same as though he was qualified to sit herein as proxy for said ☐.

The M. W. Grand Master, A. T. C. Pierson, then delivered the following

#### ADDRESS.

*Brethren of the Grand ☐ :*

By the favor of the G. A. O. T. U. we are again permitted to assemble around the altar of Masonry, in Grand ☐ Annual Communication, undiminished in numbers. The Angel of Death has for another year passed us by. The first great lesson taught us in Masonry is our duty to Deity, to invoke His aid in all our undertakings, and to return thanks for His mercies; it is, then, but obeying these instructions, when we assemble in Grand ☐ to open its sessions with prayer and thanks.

When we separate for twelve months, subject to the vicissitudes of life, we naturally expect a loved face will be missing at the next Communication; how grateful should we be, then, on this assembling, to find our numbers still complete! With what warmth does each hand grasp hand, and as each heart pulsates in unison, how pleasant the glow of Brotherly Love that pervades the bosom of each one as he embraces his brother!

In all our deliberations let us be mindful of these emotions; should anything arise in the course of discussions to mar our feelings, let us keep in mind, that this may be the last time we shall meet on earth; our session will then be conducted and closed with that peculiar Masonic harmony which has characterized our Communications from the organization of this Grand ☐ to the present time.

In consequence of sickness in my family, absence from the State, and hard times, I have been unable to visit the ☐ as extensively as I wished, which I hope the brethren will accept as my apology for apparent neglect.

I have granted Dispensations for new ☐, as follows:

November 15th, 1858, for Morning Star ☐, at La Crescent, Houston County.

March 2, 1859, for Belle Plaine ☐, at Belle Plaine, Scott County.

June 29, 1859, for Sakatah ☐, at Waterville, Le Sueur County.

Each of which has zealous, faithful, and well posted officers, and considering the hardness of the times in this State, they have done remarkably well, as their records will show when presented for inspection.

The ☐ chartered at our last Communication, have each been constituted, and officers installed, either in person or by proxy; and I am informed will be represented at this session.

Under the resolution adopted at our last Communication, recognizing the representative system, and authorizing the appointment of represent-

atives near other Grand [ ] I procured printed forms for credentials, and have appointed and commissioned the following brethren to represent the Grand [ ] of Minnesota near their Grand [ ] respectively :

M. W. Joseph C. Stevens, of Maine; Geo. H. Hubbard, of New Hampshire; Daniel Clark, of Connecticut; John L. Lewis, Jr., of New York; Jephtha B. Munn, of New Jersey; Wm. B. Thrall, of Ohio; Henry L. Palmer, of Wisconsin; T. S. Parvin, of Iowa; Thos. McCulloch, of Tennessee; Wm. H. Stevens, of Mississippi; J. McCaleb Wiley, of Alabama; Andrew Neil, of Texas; Thos. Brown, of Florida. R. W. A. G. Mackey, of South Carolina; Albert Pike, of Arkansas; Sam'l. G. Risk, of Louisiana; Alex. G. Abell, of California; J. N. McJilton, of Maryland; W. G. Shaw, of Vermont. M. W. Tomas Bobadilla, of San Domingo.

Letters of acceptance from most of the brethren named have been received and are in the possession of our R. W. Grand Secretary. Several of the Grand [ ] have reciprocated, and I am informed that others will do so. It is to be hoped that the system will be recognized by all Grand [ ]; it is of ancient date, having been adopted by the Grand [ ] of England at a very early period of her history. It was, however, first introduced in this country by the Grand [ ] of New York, in 1838, but owing to the expense of providing a representation with the Grand [ ] clothing and jewel, the system did not meet with general favor. At present the only expense incurred, is providing a Commission under the seal of the Grand [ ]. Minnesota may justly be proud of her list of Representatives, comprising as it does, the names of the most illustrious brethren of the age; brethren, each of whom has made his mark on the pages of Masonic history, and each will greet a brother with a Masonic welcome at all times.

From information received from a variety of sources, I have been compelled to withdraw the charter of the [ ] at Henderson, the property remaining in the hands of the Junior Warden, subject to the decision of the Grand [ ] upon the propriety of my action upon the premises.

The delegates to the Convention at Chicago, appointed at the last Communication of this Grand [ ], were in attendance upon that body, at its session on the 18th and 14th of September last; its deliberations resulted in the adoption of Articles of Association; proposing a new element to strengthen the bonds of union among Grand [ ]; a new means of extending Masonic intercourse, and of diffusing Masonic intelligence.

A new body is proposed to be formed, to be called "North American Congress," with limited and defined powers; the body to be composed of delegates selected by the Grand [ ]; to meet triennially, at such time and place as the General Grand Bodies meet. Should the Grand [ ] select as their Representatives, those of most Masonic experience, who are the best versed in the jurisprudence of Masonry, of clear perception, and sound judgment, this new body, which is regarded with feelings of distrust by a few, would soon be found of incalculable value; and the wonder would be, why it was not sooner formed. Its decisions of questions would be promptly adopted by the Grand [ ], and its published record of proceedings would be sought after with avidity, and be of more value than thousands of the *pseudo* Masonic documents that are constantly issuing from the press. Discussions conducted by the aged, learned, discreet, and experienced Masons of the age, their united conclusions would be adopted at once and unquestioned. Uniformity in practice, sameness in laws, harmony in action, and peace among all, would be the result. A spirit of Masonic inquiry would be aroused all over the country, which would bring to light histories of the past that are now hidden in the rubbish, laid up in the unused garret, tucked away in the old wooden chest as useless; books, pamphlets, essays, addresses, and manuscripts long since forgotten, would be restored to memory, sought after, found, and given to the Masonic world. The writings of the Fathers breathed more charity, more brotherly love, more of the genuine spirit of Masonry, than those of the present day. No motive of pecuniary gain, of ambition, of pre-ferment, of connecting their names with new rituals, new ceremonies, or new symbols, actuated them; Masonry was recommended and taught for

its own intrinsic value, for the benefits it conferred upon man's moral nature, for its beautiful symbolism, its sublime ceremonies, its religion.

The plan proposed is a very simple one. The sovereignty, power, authority or usefulness of Grand [ ] is not impaired, or interfered with, in the remotest degree, nor can be, as especial care is taken that no great central power can grow out of it. On that account no fears need be entertained of its future. It has been urged by the opponents of this measure that it lacks the power to compel obedience to its decisions. It claims no power or authority to enforce its decisions, and requires none; the moral force of opinion would be amply sufficient for its wants. We adopt the opinions of others just in proportion as their intellect or standing in the world gives them character; where is there one who would refuse to acquiesce in the decisions of the combined wisdom of the best members of the Craft in the United States?

Are we to rest content in this age of progress with the meagre developments of Masonry within our individual [ ]? Be satisfied with the *work*, as it is technically called? Our only aim to be able to confer a Degree with *eclat*? To excite the admiration of the lookers-on, with our gesticulation, enunciation, command of language, or fitness for the stage? And our only aim to find some new word, phrase or sentences, instead of the good old language that our fathers used? If this is all of Masonry, then cease publishing the Proceedings of Grand [ ], stop the issue of Masonic publications, and let there be darkness rather than light; but Masonry has a *History* extending away back in the annals of the past, a subject worthy of the most profound historian;

A *Jurisprudence* that men of the highest attainments have been engaged in elucidating; Is the subject exhausted?

A *Literature*—poetry and prose—worthy of the pen of the most polished writer;

A *Science* that has commanded, and will continue to invite the admiration of the scientific of all ages;

A *Symbolism*, extending back through countless ages, that well may require the investigation of the most erudite scholar;

A *Philosophy* that challenges comparison;

A *Religion* where all creeds, sects and shades of opinion can meet on an equality with perfect harmony;

The antiquarian, too, has a field for research, to which no human institution offers a parallel. Is not the subject sufficient to challenge the admiration of man, and to enlist the best efforts of the brightest minds in the Fraternity? To concentrate their minds, secure their co-operation in laboring in this field, is one of the great objects to be gained in the formation of the North American Masonic Congress.

Pertinent to the subject of the improvement of the Masonic mind, I have one suggestion to make that appears to me, if carried out, would result in immense advantage to our [ ], members, Masonically, mentally, socially and physically.

It is often the case that barely sufficient numbers are present at even regular Communications, to open a [ ]. Devote from one-half to an hour each [ ] night, to the reading of disquisitions upon Masonic subjects, the scope is broad enough; or to disquisitions upon other scientific subjects, or any subject except political or sectarian. I judge such a course would fill our [ ] rooms, they would become schools of instruction well worthy the attendance of all.

I have recently received from R. W. Brother W. D. Haley, of Washington, D. C., a number of pamphlets for distribution relative to an American Masonic Home, for the widows and orphans of Masons. This is a subject that comes home to every heart, and should receive careful consideration by each. The project is a good one, and if carried out would reflect great credit upon the Fraternity. Whether its location at Washington is the most desirable one, is perhaps questionable; but the stringency of money matters in this State precludes me from recommending a subscription; otherwise, I would. I hope, however, that each member of the Grand [ ] will bear home with him one of the pamphlets and present the subject to his [ ]. The character of the brethren engaged in

the movement, is an ample guaranty that any donations will be faithfully and beneficially applied.

I have refrained from making any recommendations requiring legislation at this time, not because I believe our workings perfect, but as harmony exists in and between all our ☐, and it is desirable to make this session as short as possible, I propose that the only legislation shall be such as may naturally arise. One exception: it has been conceded from our organization, that we should make the Grand ☐ of Minnesota a representative body, and perhaps the time has come when that shall be done; every year will add to the difficulties in the way. Admonished by the action of some of our sister Grand ☐, I am constrained to present the subject for your consideration at this time.

Among the Masonic worthies assembled at Chicago, in September last, was the R. W. Wm. C. Barker, who, in addition to many other offices, held that of Grand Secretary of Rhode Island. Apparently in the vigor of manhood, hale and hearty, in less than ten days after my return home I received a circular announcing his decease; truly, "in the midst of life we are in death." For nearly forty years he had been an active, zealous Mason, prompt in the discharge of all his duties. Rhode Island has lost an invaluable man, and the Fraternity generally, a brother who never refused a brother's request, if in his power to grant the favor required. I hope this Grand ☐ will take action sympathizing with our brethren of Rhode Island.

As this will probably be my last Communication to this most worthy body from this position, I have thought it appropriate to review the rise and progress of our Craft in this State.

The act organizing the Territory of Minnesota, was passed March 3d, 1849. The Governor arrived here in May following, and soon thereafter, the other territorial officers. In the seventh number of the "Minnesota Chronicle," issued July 12, 1849, appeared the following notice:

"**MASONIC.**—All members of the Order who may be at St. Paul on Monday next, (the 16th inst.) are fraternally invited to attend a Convocation to be held at the American house, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Punctual attendance is requested. B."

In response to the call, a goodly number assembled in the school house, and resolved to apply to the Grand ☐ of Ohio, for a dispensation. The petition was signed by Brothers C. K. Smith, Jer. Hughes, D. F. Brawley, A. Goodrich, Lot Moffat, W. C. Wright, J. C. Ramsey, John Conden, Albert Stilton, John Holland, Levi Sloan, and J. A. Atkinside.

The dispensation was granted August 4, 1849, appointing Brothers C. K. Smith, W. M., Jer. Hughes, S. W., and D. F. Brawley, J. W. Meetings were regularly held during that and the following year; considerable work was done; many of our best citizens date their reception of Masonic light to that ☐. A charter was granted January 24, 1853. Oct. 12, 1850, a dispensation was issued by the Grand Master of Wisconsin, to a number of brethren residing at Stillwater, to open St. John's ☐, and appointing Bros. F. K. Bartlett W. M., Benj. Allen S. W., and Wm. Holcomb, J. W. June 9th, 1852, a charter was granted by the Grand ☐, numbering 39 on their roll. St. John's ☐ was the first ☐ chartered, though St. Paul was the first under dispensation; the latter was chartered last of the three which formed the Grand ☐. During the year 1852, a dispensation was granted by the Grand Master of Illinois, for Cataract ☐ at St. Anthony, appointing Bros. A. E. Ames W. M., Wm. Smith S. W., and Isaac Brown, J. W. A charter was granted October 5, 1852, by the Grand ☐, numbering on their roll 121. This ☐ had the honor of furnishing our first Grand Master in the person of M. W. Bro. A. E. Ames.

Feb. 23, 1853, the delegates of the three ☐ met in Convention and formed a Grand ☐. At the next session two charters were granted; the next, one; the next, two; the next, ten; the next, six; and the last four, making twenty-five ☐ chartered since our organization.

In September, 1853, a dispensation for a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons was obtained, and chartered by the name of Minnesota Royal Arch Chapter, No. 1, at St. Paul.



In August, 1857, a dispensation was obtained for Vermillion Chapter, at Hastings, and in January, 1858, for St. Anthony Falls Chapter, at St. Anthony, each of which was granted a charter at the recent meeting of the General Grand Chapter at Chicago. I presume a Grand Chapter will be formed the present month.

In June, 1857, a charter for a Council of Royal and Select Masters was obtained from the Grand Council of New York, which soon ceased its labors; but it is understood that Cryptic Masonry will soon again receive the attention of the Companions under other authority.

In August, 1856, a Dispensation was received, followed in September of the same year, by a charter for Damascus Commandery of Knights Templar. Thus in three years from the establishment of the Grand ☐, each of the other branches of Masonry has been cultivated, as also the Order of Christian Knighthood; while our increase of members, ☐, Chapters, &c., has been rapid, a due observance has been had to the requirements of the Institution.

Participating in all the Masonic action in this, first Territory and then State, from 1850 to the present time, it is but a justifiable vanity, brethren, that prompts me to avail myself of this opportunity, to give the facts on record for further reference.

I have been engaged the year past, in compiling from Grand ☐ Proceedings, for the use of this jurisdiction, all the questions of Masonic law, custom and usage, that can arise in Subordinate ☐, and intended to have had it ready for presentation at this Communication; but owing to absence, and other preventing causes, I have been unable to do so.

In conclusion, brethren, that your deliberations may result in benefit to the Craft, and in sustaining our present high position before the Masonic world, is the prayer of your Grand Master.

R. W. Bro. A. C. Smith moved—

1st. That so much of the M. W. Grand Master's address as relates to a Masonic Congress, be referred to a select committee of three.

2d. That so much thereof as relates to a Masonic Home, be referred to a select committee of three.

3d. That so much thereof as relates to Past Masters, be referred to the Committee on Ancient Landmarks.

4th. That so much thereof as relates to Henderson ☐, be referred to a select committee of three.

5th. That so much thereof as relates to the death of R. W. W. C. Barker, be referred to a select committee of three.

6th. That the remaining portions of said address, be referred to a select committee of three.

Which motion prevailed, and thereupon the M. W. Grand Master appointed,

As the first of said committees—Bros. Edgerton, Bradford and Murdock.

As the second of said committees—Bros. Branson, Levering and Daniels.

As the fourth of said committees—Bros. Smith, Mower and Kerlinger.

As the fifth of said committees—Bros. Green, Reynolds and Rigby.

As the sixth of said committees—Bros. Langford, Joss and J. S. Campbell.

On motion of R. W. A. C. Smith,

*Resolved*, That this Grand ☐ proceed to the election of Grand Officers to-morrow afternoon at two o'clock.

The Grand ☐ was then called from labor to refreshment until this evening at 7 o'clock.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 7 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Grand ☐ was called from refreshment to labor, by the M. W. Grand Master.

The following additional members appeared and took their seats in this Grand ☐ :

R. W. Bro. D. B. Loomis, Deputy Grand Master ; Bro. L. E. Thompson, Worthy Master, St. John's ☐ No. 1.

R. W. Bro. F. P. Coe, S. G. W., of the Grand ☐ of Connecticut, being in attendance, was received by this Grand ☐ with the customary honors.

The Grand Secretary presented the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, pending the reading of which,

The Grand ☐ was called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow morning at nine o'clock.

## SECOND DAY.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 26.

The Grand ☐ was called from refreshment to labor by the M. W. Grand Master.

The minutes of yesterday's Proceedings were read and approved.

The following additional Representatives appeared and took seats in this Grand ☐ :

E. A. Hodsdon, Past Grand Senior Warden ; Hokah ☐ No. 26, C. W. Thompson, Worthy Master ; Cataract ☐ No. 2, M. W. Getchell, Worthy Master, C. W. Woodleigh, Senior Warden ; Wapahasa ☐ No. 17, L. S. Campbell, Worthy Master.

The committee to whom was referred so much of the Grand Master's address as refers to Henderson ☐, reported as follows :

*To the M. W. Grand ☐ now in session:*

The select committee to whom was referred so much of the Grand Master's address as relates to his action in arresting the charter of Henderson ☐ No. 13, have had the subject under consideration, and beg leave to recommend an approval of the action of the Grand Master in the premises, and recommend the adoption of the following resolutions, to wit :

*Resolved*, That the charter of Henderson ☐ No. 13, together with all its members, be, and the same is hereby suspended for the further period of one year.



*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary, under the direction of the M.: W.: Grand Master, be directed to prefer charges against Henderson □, No. 13; that he serve copies of such charges on the last Worshipful Master of said □, at least sixty days prior to the next session of this Grand □, and require said □ to answer to the same at the next session of the Grand □; and that in the meantime the Grand Secretary be instructed forthwith to demand and receive of any officer or brother in charge thereof, the Charter, By-Laws, Jewels, Furniture, and other property of said □, and that he report his action herein at the next Communication of this Grand □.

A. C. SMITH,  
J. M. KERLINGER, } Committee.  
WM. H. MOWER.

The report was received, concurred in, and the resolutions were adopted.

The Committee on Ancient Landmarks made the following report:

The Committee on Ancient Landmarks, to whom was referred so much of the Grand Master's address as recommends making the Grand □ a Representative body, have had the same under consideration, and after a full and free discussion, unanimously recommend that Section 79 of the General Regulations of this Grand □, be amended by striking out of said Section the words, "Past Masters of Subordinate □ within this jurisdiction."

All of which is respectfully submitted.

E. B. AMES,  
LOYAL DUDLEY, } Committee.  
G. W. MERRILL.

Which report was received. The question then being upon the adoption of the report, the roll was called with the following result: Ayes 62, Noes 8. Two-thirds having voted in the affirmative, the report was adopted.

Section 79 of the General Regulations of this Grand □, as amended, reads as follows:

SEC. 79. This Grand □ shall be composed of the Grand Officers mentioned in Sections 59 and 60 of this Constitution: and all Past Grand Masters, Past Deputy Grand Masters, Past Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, and the Masters and Wardens, or their proxies, of all □ subordinate to this Grand □. A proxy must have arrived at the rank of Warden [in this jurisdiction].

The committee to whom was referred that portion of the Grand Master's address relating to the death of R.: W.: Bro. Wm. C. Barker, late G.: S.: of Rhode Island, made the following report, which was received and concurred in, and the Grand Secretary was ordered to transmit a copy to the Grand □ of Rhode Island:

*To the M.: W.: Grand □ of Minnesota:*

Your committee to whom was referred that portion of the Grand Master's address relating to the death of R.: W.: William Cornell Barker, G.: S.: of the M.: W.: G.: L.: of Rhode Island, respectfully report:

The great Light in Masonry says: "I have said, ye are gods, and all of you are children of the Most High. But ye shall die like men, and fall like one of the princes."

This Grand □ of Masons do deeply mourn the loss of R.: W.: Bro. Wm. O. Barker, from the □ terrestrial. He was an eminent patron of our Order. His wisdom was commensurate with the great principles of

our honored Institution. His whole energies and love, while living, were freely given in advancing the best interests of ☐, Chapter, Council and Encampment. We sympathize with those who weep. What is our loss, our beloved Brother has gained. He was a Christian.

G. W. GREENE,  
W. T. RIGBY,  
HENRY REYNOLDS. } Committee.

The Committee on Grievances made the following report, which was received, and on motion, was concurred in :

*To the M. W. Grand ☐ now in session :*

Your Committee on Grievances, have had under consideration certain complaints not altogether proper to be written, touching the conduct of Shakopee ☐, No. 6, on various occasions, and have come to the conclusion to recommend to this Grand ☐, a suspension, for a season, of the warrant or charter of said ☐; and that the Grand Secretary, under the direction of the Grand Master, be directed to prefer charges against said ☐, serve a copy thereof on the W. Master of said ☐, at least sixty days before the next session of this Grand ☐, and require said ☐ to show cause why its charter should not be forfeited. But, that in the meantime, should said ☐ at once proceed to purge herself of the charges preferred in this Grand ☐ against her, the Grand Master is hereby fully authorized to restore said charter.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. C. SMITH,  
A. J. EDGERTON,  
W. G. BRADFORD,  
L. BRANSON. } Committee.

The following report was received, concurred in, and the resolution adopted :

*To the M. W. G. ☐ now in session :*

Your committee to whom was referred that portion of the Grand Master's address which relates to the North American Masonic Congress, would respectfully report :

That they have examined the Proceedings of that body, had at Chicago on the 13 and 14th of September last, and find that the plan recommended by our Grand Master in his annual address to this Grand ☐ last year, was substantially adopted, and they therefore offer the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That this Grand ☐ adopt the plan proposed in the report of that Convention, and that the Grand Secretary be instructed to furnish the chairman of the Standing Committee of that Convention, notice of the approval and adoption by this Grand ☐, of the plan proposed for the North American Congress.

A. J. EDGERTON,  
W. G. BRADFORD,  
H. R. MURDOCK. } Committee.

R. W. Brother A. C. Smith proposed to amend section 47, of title 6, of the Constitution, by striking out all after the word "voting," in the second line, and adding to said section, as amended, the words, "except voluntary prosecutor."

The proposed amendment was concurred in by the following vote, and ordered to be sent to the Subordinate ☐ for their approval :  
Ayes 58, noes 11:

Brother E. B. Ames moved to amend section 89, of title 2, of the Grand ☐ Regulations, by striking out the following : "For every

Degree conferred by a ☐, \$1." Also, by striking out "fifty cents," as a fee which every ☐ is required to pay into the Grand ☐ for each member of one year's standing, and inserting "75 cents."

On motion, the proposed amendment was referred to a select committee, consisting of Brothers C. P. Adams, E. B. Ames, and L. S. Campbell.

Brother C. P. Adams offered the following preamble and resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Ancient Landmarks:

*Whereas*, In accordance with a resolution passed at the last Annual Communication of this Grand ☐, requesting the Secretaries of Subordinate ☐ to furnish the Grand Secretary with a list of all non-affiliated Master Masons residing within their respective jurisdictions; and

*Whereas*, Pursuant to such requirement, eleven Subordinate ☐ have reported an aggregate of one hundred and ten, then non-affiliated; therefore,

*Resolved*, That no non-affiliated Mason residing within the jurisdiction of this M. W. Grand ☐, shall hereafter be permitted to visit any Subordinate ☐ outside of the ☐ within whose jurisdiction he may reside; nor shall he be permitted to visit the ☐ of his own jurisdiction more than three times, which visits shall be made for the purpose of acquainting himself with the members and working of the ☐, upon his Masonic assurance that he is desirous of becoming a member of that ☐.

The following report, made by Brother Andrew Levering, was received and concurred in:

The committee to whom was referred so much of the M. W. Grand Master's address, as refers to the subject of the founding of a "Masonic Home," respectfully report:

That they have given the subject due consideration, and offer the following resolutions:

1. That we heartily approve of founding at some suitable locality, a "Masonic Home" for the widows and orphans of deceased brethren.

2. That such a charity appeals to the kindest feeling of every true Mason, and while it may not, at this juncture, be possible or politic for the ☐ of this State to contribute of their funds in aid of this enterprise, we urge upon brethren to bestow as liberally as possible, such money as may be at their disposal, upon an object so truly Masonic.

L. BRANSON,  
ANDREW LEVERING, } Committee.  
CHAS. N. DANIELS.

The Grand Secretary laid before the Grand ☐ the following documents received from other Grand bodies:

Proceedings of Grand ☐ of Iowa, Volume II, from 1854 to 1858, bound volume with engravings.

Proceedings of Grand ☐ of Ohio, Volume II, from 1848 to 1857, bound volume.

The Early Records of Freemasonry in Connecticut. Parts I, II, and III, in pamphlet.

Also the following: Verzeichniss der von der ☐ Pythagoras No. 1, in Brooklyn Gessamel ten Bucher und Munsen. Presented by B. Barthelmess, M. D.

Ordered, that the same be added to our library, and suitable thanks returned for the favors.

The reading of the report of committee of F. C. was resumed for a short time, when on motion, it was ordered that the further reading of the report be dispensed with, and that the same be printed with the Proceedings.

On motion of Bro. C. P. Adams, a committee on the Pay Roll of Representatives, was appointed, consisting of Bros. C. P. Adams, G. W. Green and E. Case.

The Grand ☐ was called from labor to refreshment until two o'clock this afternoon.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Grand ☐ was called from refreshment to labor by the M. W. Grand Master.

On motion of Bro. E. B. Ames, voted to postpone the election of Grand Officers for the time being.

Bro. N. P. Langford made the following report, which was received and concurred in :

To the M. W. Grand ☐ :

The committee to whom was referred such portions of the M. W. Grand Master's address, as were not referred to other committees, would report :

That there is nothing requiring special attention which has not already been brought to your notice through other committees, but we cannot refrain from saying, that as a whole, the address is one of unusual merit and interest ; and containing as it does many matters of importance, to which the committee need not call your attention, but which will readily suggest themselves to an observant reader, we would commend a careful perusal and study of the whole subject-matter of the address, to the ☐ in this jurisdiction.

N. P. LANGFORD,	} Committee.
F. JOSS,	
J. S. CAMPBELL.	

R. W. Bro. Wm. H. Mower made the following report, which was received and concurred in :

The Committee on Returns of ☐ would respectfully report, that they have had under examination the returns of the following ☐, and find them substantially correct :

St. John's ☐ No. 1 ; Cataract ☐ No. 2 ; St. Paul ☐ No. 3 ; Henepin ☐ No. 4 ; Ancient Landmark ☐ No. 5 ; Shakopee ☐ No. 6 ; Dakota ☐ No. 7 ; Red Wing ☐ No. 8 ; Faribault ☐ No. 9 ; Pacific ☐ No. 10 ; Mantorville ☐ No. 11 ; Mankato ☐ No. 12 ; Wapahasa ☐ No. 14 ; Monticello ☐ No. 16 ; Hokah ☐ No. 17 ; Winona ☐ No. 18 ; Minneapolis ☐ No. 19 ; Pleasant Grove ☐ No. 22 ; Meridian ☐ No. 25 ; Western Star, No. 26 ; Blue Earth Valley ☐ No. 27 ; Clear Water ☐ No. 28.

WM. H. MOWER,	} Committee.
JOSEPH DEAN,	
ANDREW LEVERING.	

The Committee on Ancient Landmarks reported the resolution of Bro. C. P. Adams, upon the subject of non-affiliation, back to the Grand ☐, with a recommendation that it pass.

On motion of Bro. E. B. Ames, the same was referred to a select

committee consisting of Bros. L. E. Thompson, C. P. Adams and E. A. Hodsdon.

Bro. M. W. Getchell moved a reconsideration of the vote of this morning, amending Section 79 of the General Regulations of this Grand ☐.

Bro. E. B. Ames moved to lay the motion on the table, which motion prevailed.

Bro. N. P. Langford, from the Committee upon the Returns of ☐ U. S. D., made the following report, which was received and concurred in, and the resolution adopted :

*To the M. S. Grand ☐ of Minnesota :*

The Committee on Work of ☐ U. S. D., would respectfully report :

That they have examined the Work of the following ☐ U. S. D., namely : Anoka ☐, at Anoka, and Morning Star ☐, at La Crescent.

Your committee find that the Dispensation to Anoka ☐, was issued only about ten days ago, and therefore the brethren have not been able to do more than organize since that time, but from a personal knowledge of the applicants, and from the regularity of their proceedings thus far, your committee believe that the petitioners are fully qualified to fill their respective stations in a ☐ with honor to themselves and credit to the Fraternity.

A copy of the By-Laws proposed to be used in said ☐, has been examined by your committee and approved.

Your committee have also examined the Work of Morning Star ☐, and find that the minutes of said ☐ during the early part of their organization, are so full of errors (to use a mild term,) that it is impossible to particularize them in a report of this kind ; but as their subsequent Proceedings show that they have corrected their errors, your committee are disposed to overlook the inaccuracies in their former Proceedings.

Your committee have also examined and approved their By-Laws, and would offer the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That charters be issued to Morning Star ☐, No. —, at La Crescent, and Anoka ☐, No. —, at Anoka, upon their depositing the fees required by the Constitution of the Grand ☐.

H. R. MURDOCK, } Committee.  
N. P. LANGFORD. }

The same committee also made the following supplemental report :

Your committee have also examined the work of Belle Plaine ☐, U. S. D., at Belle Plaine, and find them correct in every particular, and therefore offer the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That a charter be issued to Belle Plaine ☐, No. —, upon their depositing the fees required by the Constitution of the Grand ☐.

N. P. LANGFORD, *Committee*.

Which was received and concurred in, and pending the motion to adopt the resolution, the Grand Secretary laid before the Grand ☐ a communication from Belle Plaine ☐, praying the continuance of the dispensation another year.

A motion to grant the prayer of the petitioners was offered as a substitute for the resolution, which was accepted and carried unanimously.

The select committee to whom was referred the proposed amend-

ment to section 89, of title 2, of the Grand ☐ Regulations, made a report.

Bro. Joseph Dean moved that the report be recommitted.

Brother A. J. Edgerton moved that the report be laid upon the table, which motion prevailed.

On motion of Brother Joseph Dean, the Grand ☐ went into an election of Grand Officers for the ensuing Masonic year—Bros. Lewis Branson and F. Joss being appointed tellers—with the following result:

M.: W.: A. T. C. PIERSON, St. Paul, Grand Master, re-elected.  
 R.: W.: D. B. LOOMIS, Stillwater, Deputy Grand Master, re-elected.  
 R.: W.: SAM. E. ADAMS, Monticello, Senior Grand Warden.  
 R.: W.: JOHN C. WHIPPLE, Faribault, Junior Grand Warden.  
 R.: W.: E. CASE, Minneapolis, Grand Treasurer, re-elected.  
 R.: W.: GEO. W. PRESCOTT, St. Paul, Grand Secretary, re-elected.

R.: W.: E. A. Hodsdon, P.: S.: G.: W.: of this Grand ☐, was announced in waiting as Representative of the Grand ☐ of Louisiana, residing near this Grand ☐, and was received with appropriate honors. In response to the welcome accorded by the G.: Master in behalf of this Grand ☐, R.: W.: Brother Hodsdon addressed the Grand ☐ as follows:

*M.: W.: G.: M.: of the G.: and B.: of the G.: ☐ of Minnesota:*

The honorable position which I occupy on this occasion, as the representative of the Grand ☐ of Louisiana, is a source of pride to me; and this pride is not a little enhanced by the cordial greeting, the fraternal welcome, and the honors with which the Grand ☐ of Minnesota has been pleased to receive me.

It is an honor to represent Masonry, for Masonry is honorable. Where there is most of Masonry there is most of peace, harmony, charity, brotherly love, and whatever other grace is prominent in the upright and perfect man.

How little do the nations know the influence of this "Ancient Institution," in compacts of peace. When soldier meets soldier, the plains of Italy are deluged with blood. When Mason meets Mason, the "Peace of Villafranca" takes the wisest by surprise and balks the prospect of a general war.

We love Masonry, for her mission is always the same—for God and humanity. She is the great conservative power that holds the world in a bond of union. Churches may divide, some cleaving to the North, and some to the South. Questions of state policy may arise, gathering weight and importance from year to year, begetting belligerent feelings, tearing up old landmarks, dividing parties into factions, and uniting factions into geographical oppositions. *But Masonry never divides.* Whether in the palace or in the cottage, in ancient or in modern times, Masonry is one—one in language, one in principle, one in love. She rejoices with the fortunate, and sympathizes with the distressed. With an invincible fortitude she defies the ocean's tempest and the icy blast, and from year to year with untiring zeal seeks her emblems amid polar glaciers, and reveals the fate of Franklin, her intrepid son.

The harmony of the Craft in Louisiana has not of late been so perfect as we could wish. Certain ☐, unmindful of the allegiance they owe to the Grand ☐, are, for the present, working contrary to the designs laid down on the Master's trestleboard. These cases have been met in a Masonic spirit, and as in New York and Canada, time no doubt will heal the discrepancy which now exists. With these exceptions, Masonry is pros-



perous in Louisiana, and is doing a truly Masonic work. Relief [ ] in one year expended upon destitute Masons, their widows and orphans, \$2,372, thus clearly showing that the "Ancient and Honorable Institution" is not unmindful of its mission.

The candid manner in which your Committee on Foreign Correspondence has reviewed the Proceedings of the Grand [ ] of Louisiana from year to year, entitles its members and this Grand Body for which they act, to our unqualified approbation. The chairman of that committee, your Worthy Secretary, G. W. Prescott, might be highly complimented without being flattered. His reports are able, witty, and extremely fraternal.

The warmth with which you have greeted me as the representative of a Grand [ ] from the southern border of this Union, is peculiarly striking when considered in connection with the political complexion of the times—a complexion begotten by contact of opposite principles—a red complexion generated by fire, like the flaming sword that hung over Jerusalem. God forbid that it should prove alike portentous. As Masons, we are not disturbed by such phenomena. The harmony of our temple is never marred by the sound of "the axe, or hammer, or any tool of iron," for Masonry embraces not merely the four cardinal points, but with the whole *thirty-two* encircles the world. Her unity is sealed with the signet of Jehovah. "So mote it be."

R. W. Wm. H. Mower, P. D. G. M. of this Grand [ ], as Representative of the Grand [ ] of New Hampshire, residing near this Grand [ ], and Brother C. W. Thompson, as Representative of the Grand [ ] of Wisconsin, residing near this Grand [ ], were announced to be in waiting, and were severally received with appropriate honors, and welcomed in their official characters to seats in this Grand [ ].

M. W. A. T. C. Pierson was introduced and duly accredited as the Representative of the Grand [ ] of New York, near this Grand [ ].

The M. W. G. M. also announced that M. W. B. F. Smith, Representative from the Grand [ ] of Ohio, was detained from this Communication by sickness, and that W. Brother C. C. Jones, Representative from the Grand [ ] of New Jersey, was detained by business in the Court of which he is clerk.

M. W. Brother A. E. Ames, P. G. M., then installed M. W. Brother A. T. C. Pierson as Grand Master of this Grand [ ] for the ensuing Masonic year.

The Grand [ ] was called from labor to refreshment until 7 o'clock this evening.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 7 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Grand [ ] was called from refreshment to labor, by the M. W. Grand Master.

Bro. L. E. Thompson, from the committee to whom was referred the resolution of Bro. C. P. Adams, relative to the subject of non-affiliation, reported the following substitute, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That no resident non-affiliated Mason shall be allowed to visit any Subordinate [ ] in this jurisdiction, after he shall have resided in said jurisdiction — months.

R.: W.: Bro. Wm. H. Mower moved to fill the blank with the word "twelve," which motion was lost, and on motion said blank was filled with the word "six."

Bro. E. B. Ames offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the Treasurer for the sum of ten dollars, in favor of the Grand Tyler, for tying at the present session of the Grand ☐, and also for the sum of two dollars and fifty cents for lights and fuel furnished the same.

The M.: W.: Grand Master then installed the following Grand Officers elect :

R.: W.: D. B. LOOMIS, Deputy Grand Master.  
R.: W.: SAM. E. ADAMS, Senior Grand Warden.  
R.: W.: JNO. C. WHIPPLE, Junior Grand Warden.  
R.: W.: EMANUEL CASE, Grand Treasurer.  
R.: W.: GEO. W. PRESCOTT, Grand Secretary.

The M.: W.: Grand Master announced the appointment of and proceeded to install the following Grand Officers, to wit :

W.: Bro. D. B. KNICKERBOCKER, Minneapolis, Grand Chaplain.  
W.: Bro. LEWIS BRANSON, Mankato, Grand Marshal.  
W.: Bro. J. S. CAMPBELL, Winona, Grand Standard Bearer.  
W.: Bro. C. W. THOMPSON, Hokah, Grand Sword Bearer.  
W.: Bro. G. W. GREEN, Pleasant Grove, Senior Grand Deacon.  
W.: Bro. W. F. RIGBY, Clear Water, Junior Grand Deacon.  
W.: Bro. C. P. ADAMS, Hastings, Grand Pursuivant.  
W.: Bro. WM. H. WOLFF, St. Paul, Senior Grand Steward.  
W.: Bro. L. S. CAMPBELL, Wabashaw, Junior Grand Steward.  
W.: Bro. A. RICHARDSON, St. Paul, Grand Tyler.

Bro. A. J. Edgerton offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

*Resolved*, That two hundred and fifty dollars be allowed the Grand Secretary for his services during the past year.

On motion of R.: W.: Bro. John C. Whipple, the Grand Secretary was authorized to procure the printing of five hundred blank returns of ☐.

The Grand Secretary having presented some Masonic books to the Grand ☐, he was authorized to procure a book case for the Grand ☐ library.

The reports of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer were received, and owing to the lateness of the hour, were laid over for another year. [The pay roll shows the amounts received for dues.]

The committee appointed to prepare a Pay Roll, made a report, which on motion, was recommitted for correction, and Bro. L. E. Thompson was appointed upon said committee, in place of Bro. C. P. Adams, who was excused therefrom.

The Committee subsequently made the following report :

## PAY ROLL OF MEMBERS.

NAME OF LODGE.	No. Lodge.	No. of Days.	Per diem.	Mileage.	Total.	Dues Paid G. O.	Am't. Paid.	TO WHOM PAID.
Saint John's,.....	1	1	\$6 00	\$3 00	\$9 00	\$22 00	\$9 00	L. E. Thompson.
Catact,.....	2	2	6 00	2 00	8 00	18 50	8 00	W. G. Bradford.
Saint Paul,.....	3	3	6 00	.....	6 00	39 00	6 00	G. W. Merrill.
Hennepin,.....	4	4	6 00	2 00	8 00	75 50	8 00	E. B. Ames.
Ancient Landmark,.....	5	5	6 00	.....	6 00	8 00	6 00	C. W. Carpenter.
Shakopee,.....	6	6	6 00	3 00	9 00	.....	.....	.....
Dakota,.....	7	7	6 00	3 00	9 00	.....	.....	.....
Red Wing,.....	8	8	6 00	4 00	10 00	32 00	10 00	F. Joss.
Faribault,.....	9	9	6 00	10 00	16 00	18 00	16 00	J. C. Whipple.
Pacific,.....	10	10	6 00	.....	6 00	26 50	6 00	N. P. Langford.
Mantorville,.....	11	11	6 00	10 00	16 00	16 00	16 00	A. J. Edgerton.
Mankato,.....	12	12	6 00	12 00	18 00	20 50	18 00	Lewis Branson.
Wapaham,.....	13	13	6 00	7 00	13 00	14 00	13 00	S. L. Campbell.
Monticello,.....	14	14	6 00	9 00	15 00	10 87	10 87	S. E. Adams.
Hokah,.....	15	15	6 00	13 00	19 00	26 00	19 00	C. W. Thompson.
Winona,.....	16	16	6 00	8 00	14 00	34 50	14 00	Jas. S. Campbell.
Minneapolis,.....	17	17	6 00	2 00	8 00	38 50	8 00	Joseph Dean.
Pleasant Grove,.....	18	18	6 00	16 00	22 00	24 00	22 00	G. W. Green.
Meridian,.....	19	19	6 00	11 00	17 00	15 50	15 50	Loyal Dudley.
Blue Earth Valley,.....	20	20	6 00	18 00	24 00	28 00	24 00	W. F. Rigby.
Clear Water,.....	21	21	6 00	11 00	17 00	9 00	9 00	J. H. McKenney.
Grand Treasurer,.....	22	22	6 00	2 00	8 00	.....	.....	Emanuel Case.

There being no further business to transact, the Eighth Grand Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand ☐ of Minnesota, was declared at an end, and was closed in ample form.

A. T. C. PIERSON, *Grand Master.*

GEO. W. PRESCOTT, *Grand Secretary.*

## APPENDIX.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

To the M. W. G. L. of Minnesota:

The report of your Committee on Foreign Correspondence is probably as voluminous as ever—we hope it may, in its extracts at least, be as interesting. Taking the Proceedings of other Grand ☐ in alphabetical order, the first upon the list is

## ALABAMA.

Thirty-eighth Annual Communication. Grand Master Wiley urges upon the Grand ☐ the great importance of writing at an early day the history of Masonry in that State. He announces the issuing of nine Dispensations, but recommends great circumspection

in the examination of their Proceedings and By-Laws, before issuing charters. The subject of non-affiliation is brought forward "with some reluctance," said he, "but my convictions of duty, and of the great wrong these brethren are reflecting upon the character, usefulness and funds of the ☐, impel me to it." He holds, that if a Mason will not work, neither should he eat, declaring, that "you might as well say that a dimitted church member was still a member of the church, or that a stockholder in a bank, or insurance company, who had sold out his stock, was entitled to dividends, as to say that a dimitted Mason is still a Mason and entitled to Masonic benefits and privileges." He advises the Grand ☐ to have the Grand Master's address and report on Foreign Correspondence printed in advance of the Communication, so that being in the hands of each member, business may be expedited. The following notice of the past is interesting to the Brotherhood generally :

"And now, brethren, when I am about to retire from a position to which I have been twice elevated by your partiality, suffer me to take a retrospect of the Order for a few years, and congratulate you on our present prosperous condition. In 1833, (twenty-five years since,) there were but twelve ☐ in Alabama, with an aggregate membership of 296. It is true that the Order was then just beginning to emerge from a most trying ordeal, assailed as it was by a fanaticism, ignorance and superstition sufficiently violent and vindictive to have crushed any other human Institution under the sun ; but thanks to the correctness of our principle, and to that noble band of brethren who stood by it in the hour of its need, it has survived the assaults of its enemies, the lukewarmness of reputed friends, and even the depleting and discouraging effects of dimission, and has steadily pursued 'the even tenor of its way,' until we now have 231 ☐, with a membership of over 8,000, embracing much of the moral character of the State."

P. G. M. S. A. M. Wood was employed by the Grand ☐ to prepare a history of the Order in that State, and \$600 was appropriated to defray the expenses.

The Committee on Jurisprudence decided among other things, that a petition for affiliation may be withdrawn at any time before a ballot, with the unanimous consent of members present, but that "all the Subordinate ☐ in the State are interested in the admission or rejection of a candidate for initiation ; and as all of them cannot be present, and cannot be heard, the ☐ to which his petition was presented, is required to pass absolutely upon his worthiness or unworthiness," and that consequently the withdrawal of the petition is prohibited. Also, that "a Subordinate ☐ has the right to elect any member thereof, who has filled the station of a Warden, to the office of Worshipful Master, and the member who is thus elected is entitled to be installed without regard to the Past Master's Degree." These decisions were concurred in. The Committee on Chartered ☐, report that a ☐ under Dispensation is a ☐, and

that Masons who are members of any ☐ must dimit before they can obtain a Dispensation for a new ☐. This was also concurred in.

A case of general interest came before the Grand ☐, and as we wish to copy the remarks of the Iowa committee on Foreign Correspondence upon the subject, we will take their statement also. The Iowa committee say :

"An interesting question in jurisprudence was raised, but not settled. A Mason was tried for a heinous offence, and by a vote of fourteen to ten was found guilty. On the question of punishment the vote was the same, the sentence of suspension and expulsion failing for the want of the constitutional two-thirds. The vote for reprimand carried, that being decided by a majority. It was conceded that a reprimand was not adequate punishment for the offence of which the offender was convicted, but the proof was not satisfactory to the minds of the minority. After the sentence had been executed, new and conclusive testimony was discovered, sufficient to convince the most skeptical. The question now is, can a new trial be had ?

"The Alabama committee was divided ; Past Grand Master Wood with the majority, in favor of a new trial ; David Clopton, Past Grand Master, with the minority, opposed. After considerable discussion, the Grand ☐ recommitted the reports to the committee, and ordered their publication.

"Upon so grave and important a question the writer of this report hesitates to express an opinion. The views of other members of the committee would have a weight that would render them important, but distance and want of time forbid consultation. He is inclined to agree with the majority report. It must be conceded that Masonic trials are not to be governed in all respects by the laws, rules, and regulations of the civil courts. The technicalities of law under which so many rascals go unwhipt of justice, are not for a moment to be tolerated in Masonic courts. These are composed of the brethren of the accused, who have a duty to perform to the Order which they represent, no less sacred than the rights of the accused which they are so solemnly bound to respect. In view of all difficulties arising from an act which afterwards may be proven to be unjust to one of the parties, whether resulting in the unjust exclusion of a worthy brother, or, in what may be the no less wrongful retention in the Order of a dangerous man, it would seem that the power should exist *somewhere* to order a new trial. And why not, where the wrong is done to the body of Masonry as well as to the individual ? The aggregate wrong is certainly not less in the former case than in the latter.

"Next, as to *where* the power exists to order a new trial. If it exists at all it is to be found in the ☐ that has acted on the case. A motion made therein to that effect, in regular order of business, of which all parties should have due notice, and for the purpose of correcting manifest errors in law, or to do substantial justice, should receive attention. If it be overruled an appeal would lie to the Grand ☐. This new trial would then be conducted as the former had been, in the absence of all technical rules, upon the broad principles of justice and sound policy—much more nearly allied to the proceedings of a court of conscience than a court of law. To all objections on the score of supposed persecution and needless annoyance to an accused brother, let us suppose that the ☐ would be governed by a sense of charity as well as justice. Is this a violent presumption ? Is virtue extinct ? If not, the rule *flat justitia*, &c., may be safely applied. Let each ☐ so understand it, and 'do justice though the heavens fall.'

We will only add to the above, that in our opinion, Masonry can be easily Jefferson's Manneled (*verb*) right to perdition. Civil law cannot reach all cases of wrong, and the limits of its exercise must be arbitrarily defined. It is a fine and wise maxim that "that govern-

ment is best which govern least." Such a maxim is not good, however, of moral law which is the law of Masonry. A man who is tried for murder may be acquitted for want of sufficient evidence. That evidence once judicially passed upon, however, and the power of the civil law is completely exhausted. The confession of the party, and the testimony of an army of eye-witnesses to the guilt, cannot revive it. But the moral law gives a new trial; and although the life and physical liberty of the criminal may be inviolate, yet the verdict which is recorded upon every heart, makes that criminal expiate his crime by being forever an outcast from the social world, like the branded Cain of old.

Now suppose that a murderer had been tried in a Masonic ☐. He was acquitted. It afterwards became apparent that beyond possibility of a doubt he was really guilty. Is his bloodstained soul to find rest and fellowship, and his bloodstained hand to be clasped in friendly companionship, in a place dedicated to Him who said, "Thou shalt not kill," merely because a second trial may not be had? It is for offences against moral law, not civil law, that Masonry has its discipline. Its power to punish is only a moral power. The report of the minority says, "the very first principle of justice, as well as true liberty, as far as it is applicable to the administration of criminal law, whether in State, church or elsewhere, is that there must be a determinate period when prosecution shall finally cease." We believe that the plea of "former acquittal" should never be valid in a Masonic ☐. Trial should follow trial, even for forty times save one, if the ☐ so decide. Were it unfortunately so to happen, that an unworthy brother should unwarrantably avail himself of this rule to carry on a persecution, he is himself ever within reach of our discipline; but, since either an acquitted criminal must find our portals barred against him, or the good must desert our altars, all these dangers of persecution and injustice, in individual cases, must be risked. The civil law owes its existence to the necessity for a mutual truce; the Masonic law is a law of brotherhood.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence was made by P. G. M. Wood, and is nearly one hundred pages in length. The M. W. brother talks right sensibly about the late effort being made in many jurisdictions to explain away or throw away the ancient charge requiring that a Master should have first acted as Warden. He says:

"If Grand Master Rockwell has given the correct interpretation of the ancient charge, it is, in our opinion, a matter rather to be regretted than otherwise, and for this reason: The qualifications necessary for a Master of a ☐, are at this day much overlooked, and certainly service as a Warden has had the effect of contributing much to the attainment of *that merit* which ought to induce the brethren to elevate one to the head of the



□. The new interpretation (for such it is) will, besides abandoning one of the old paths, advance us in nothing. We give up a good, conservative, useful practice, for one that will have a tendency to bring about elevation to office on other grounds than Masonic zeal and knowledge. We do not yield to the new doctrine, else we should propose such a regulation as they already have in New York, which forbids the election of any one but a Master Mason who shall have served as Warden."

The brother's notice of Minnesota is full, fraternal and flattering; and among the many kind notices your committee have received from brother committees of other States, none has caused such a thrill of genuine pleasure as did the compliment of Brother Wood, when he declared that a former report of ours had "made his heart very happy." Such an assurance "is better than diamonds."

The brethren may recollect that in a former report we alluded to a case in Alabama, of a Mason's wishing to draw entirely from the Order, and "be as though he had never been," and gave the Grand Master's decision upon it. Brother Wood was the Grand Master at the time, and he now says:

"It is a matter of gratification to him who made the decision, that its effect was to remove a great deal of prejudice in the neighborhood of the □, and to set the opinions of both Masons and profanes right upon the subject in that locality; and when to this is added the approval of every Grand □ committee which has referred to the matter, it affords him an abundance of sincere pleasure."

In his notice of the Missouri Proceedings, he says:

"He (the Grand Master,) speaks about uniformity of work, and recommends a plan somewhat similar to the one we have just abandoned. It is probable that this matter will one day have its solution: but when, where, or by whom, is a thing yet hidden from mortals here below. It is the impression of this committee that one great reason why the ritual is not well understood, is because Masons, officers of □, will not read and study Masonry, beginning with the old charge, and reading everything about its history and its principles. If they would only imbue their hearts with a love of its beautiful thoughts, by study of all the glorious precepts it has always taught, then they would come to feel the words of the ceremony, and to see the fitness of every step, of every action, and it would sink deep in their hearts and be engraven forever in their memories. Brethren, read all that you can find on the subject of Masonry, and ponder it well; this will help you."

#### ARKANSAS.

Seventy □ responded to the roll call at the opening of this Communication. After the usual congratulations to the Order, the Grand Master alludes to the death of the Grand Junior Warden, Bro. Jas. A. Dewoody; reports the granting of thirteen dispensations; expresses the belief that □ are multiplying too fast, and excuses himself for granting all applications, on the plea of excess of human kindness in his composition. He says:

"A question of novelty as well as apparent interest has arisen within our jurisdiction—how far the political opinions of a candidate constitute a legal disqualification. I suppose that no political opinions can be pronounced a legal disqualification, unless they are such as to lead to the violation of the charge as to the civil government, given to the Entered Ap-

prentice, and repeated in the Master's installation. Merely speculative opinions, however wild or repugnant to the general sense of community, can scarcely be so termed. But there are still other considerations to influence the vote of each individual member. For myself, I would consent to the admission of no person into our mystic Brotherhood, however intelligent he might be, however good his intentions, however irreproachable his moral character, if the opinions entertained by him, whether political or otherwise, were such as to prevent a cordial fraternal intercourse. Some men of extensive literary attainments, of good moral character, of many virtues, are in some respects so constituted by nature, or by education, as to render them unfit for any social organization. In such case, or whenever the general principles regulating the life and conduct of the candidate, are such as would not, in my opinion, promote the good of the Order, and the well-being of the Fraternity, I should consider it my duty to reject him, though no legal disqualification should exist. I recognize no one's right to become a member of the Fraternity, and shall give my consent to the admission of none whom I can not receive as friends and brothers."


We submit the above "question of some novelty," as a *specimen* of "some novelty." Beginning with a reference to *legal* disqualification, and then circumambulating generally—giving heavy blows against—or at, for we cannot see them hit—some mysterious unfitness for social organization, and winding up with a general declaration of independence, as old and well established as the foundations of our Order. We suggest to our Arkansas brother that the secret ballot was intended to keep out any and every man who could not be received by *all* as a brother, even though the objector found himself in the position of the individual who didn't like "Dr. Fell." Something was evidently "under the woodpile;" but such a flourish of sticks on the part of the Grand Master, without unearthing the monster, leaves us wonderstricken with big imaginings.

Grand Master Barber calls attention to the "Abstract of returns for 1857," by which it appears that of one hundred and four [ ] , only fifty-one had made their returns, saying, "what a melancholy picture of the state of Masonry does it present!" He concludes his address by acknowledging his obligations for repeated honors, and hoping to be ever found willing to work, but thinks the period has arrived when he may, with propriety, claim retirement and repose. The Grand [ ] did not excuse him, however, and he was re-elected. It is the policy of some [ ] , both Grand and Subordinate, when the East is well filled, to keep it so by refusing to change, and it is a wise policy too. The brethren in Arkansas have commenced upon a college, and the following extract from a report, is very encouraging so far. We hope they will never find the load too big to carry, but "have our doubts:"



"The beautiful college edifice, now so nearly completed, standing upon one hundred acres of land, within one mile of the State Capitol, and which has already increased ten-fold in market value since its purchase by the trustees of the college, with available assets to the amount of at least five thousand dollars beyond the cost of the land and buildings—proclaim our educational scheme to be no mere fiction, but a gratifying fact."

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is short, briefly noticing the contents of other Proceedings. Speaking of Bro. Abell, the committee with happily answering good humor, say : " As we think, he indulges in rather unreasonable facetiousness in relation to Arkansas, yet it is done in a mirthful, kindly spirit, and we forgive the sin on account of the sinner !"

#### CALIFORNIA.

Tenth Annual Communication. Seventy-nine chartered  were represented at the opening. The special committee to whom the Grand Master's address was referred, reported that they felt " well assured that the Craft of this jurisdiction, in years to come, when the material forms of those now participating in our deliberations shall be crumbled into dust, will hold in fitting veneration the name of him whose recorded thoughts reflected upon the mirror of the past, may guide them to such wise legislation as will forever preserve the harmony now existing in our councils." The Grand Master says :

" It is pleasing to indulge in retrospects, but only useful as we apply them to the duties and labors of life. Our noble Order has a long and glorious history, and its unwritten pages excite the most glowing memories to which the heart of humanity can cling. Down through the dim ages its record is like a track of kindly sympathies. Its strong arm of brotherhood has been a shield to those of the Craft who have lived before us, and its achievements have been but blessings to our race. As every year adds to the history of the past, and every event affords a moral, so may our reflections and experience properly applied, open up new channels by which to approach unobtrusively the abodes of want, and add, without a seeming cause, to the general sum of human happiness."

He announces the granting of eight Dispensations during the year, and says : " Upon a careful examination of their Work, if it meet your approbation, and you are satisfied that the location of each is one calculated to sustain a  in its course of usefulness, I would recommend that charters be granted." Such guarded action on the part of the Grand Master and Grand , will avoid many a trouble which in other jurisdictions has been found most disastrous to the Fraternity. The committee on Masonic jurisprudence " believe that mistakes in balloting may and should be rectified, and that, too, as speedily as possible ; but the most unmistakable proofs should be presented that the dark ballots were really deposited in error, where it appears evident that a black ball has been carelessly dropped when a white one was intended, or when it is shown that a negative vote has been cast under a misapprehension as to the name or identity of the candidate, justice requires a correction of the error. But it is better that such cases, unless corrected immediately, should take the usual course, when a re-ballot is desired, and be referred to

the Grand Master with all the necessary evidence for his Dispensation if he deem proper." The committee also say, "it is clearly their opinion that it is inexpedient and improper that the important business of the ☐ should be transacted with a less number of members present than that required to obtain or retain a charter," and they offered a resolution, which was adopted, "that no ☐ under this jurisdiction be allowed to transact business, other than the conferring of Degrees, with a less number than seven members present." The Committee on Grievances reported that they "believe the law to be that in all cases of a tie vote, (except by ballot,) the Master, in addition to his proper vote, has the right to give the casting vote," in which the Grand ☐ concurred. The Committee on Dispensations and Charter reported as follows, which received concurrence also :

"Your committee are of the opinion that a charter should not be granted to any ☐ until it affirmatively appears, and in a positive manner, that there is a population within its jurisdiction sufficient to afford the requisite number of contributing members and unworked material whereby to enable it to have sufficient pecuniary resources to support the character and dignity of the ☐.

Several Grand ☐ of recent organization having through inadvertence never been formally recognized by the Grand ☐ of California, a resolution was passed cordially recognizing the Grand ☐ of Minnesota, Kansas, Nebraska, and Washington. The Grand Orator, Worshipful Bro. Jas. Lawrence English, delivered an address before the Grand ☐, upon the history of our Order. He finds the date of its institution in the second and third chapters of the second book of Chronicles, although he admits that there are those who claim that "the mysteries of Masonry were communicated directly from God to Adam, and from Adam through a succession, which is designated to King Solomon." The address is minute in its particulars and gives a great deal of very interesting information. We quote one passage :

"All the peculiarities of the Order, as it now exists, are deducible from its ancient character. One of those is, that women are not allowed to be made Masons. Many fanciful reasons have, at different times, been assigned for this conclusion, but the true one is to be found in the fact that women are not adapted by nature to the performance of those severe labors in the forests, in the quarries, and on the edifices themselves, to which the members of the Craft were subjected, and not being constitutionally able to perform the tasks, they were excluded from the privileges of the Craft."

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is, as usual, from the pen of the able Grand Secretary. It is like his preceding efforts, excepting that his sparkling wit is subdued by sadness. Heavy domestic affliction has overtaken our brother, calling forth all the sympathies of fraternal loving hearts throughout the

Union. Brother Abel says in closing, "if the report of the present year should not enlist the interest which has apparently been felt in those which have preceded it, there are sad reasons for it, and the writer will not be disappointed." *"There are sad reasons for it."* A lighter affliction would have required more words to express it, but that expression is enough for "the mute eloquence of sorrow." May time bring to our wounded brother a balm, and eternity a restoration.

In noticing the reasoning of the Iowa committee upon the right to dimit, Brother Abell says :

"Thus the general proposition appears to be, that because it requires permission to be admitted to a body, it must require it to be allowed to leave it. Because a majority of the votes of a district is necessary to admit a man to a seat in Congress, must there be a similar expression of the public will to enable him to resign? In one view a member has the right to withdraw from membership at any time, if his dues are paid and there be no charges against him pending, by the simple annunciation of his determination to that effect, but that the ☐ may determine whether it will or will not grant him that written or printed certificate of condemnation usually denominated a "dimit."

He understands that appeals to the Grand ☐ "are taken from the errors of the Subordinates, and it may just as well happen that a ☐ has committed an error in not sustaining charges as in the opposite event."

#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

When this Grand ☐ visited Richmond, in February, 1858, at the Inauguration of the Equestrian Statue of Washington, Potomac ☐, No. 5, upon request, furnished it with "the gavel used by our illustrious brother GEORGE WASHINGTON, during his Mastership," a precious relic indeed.

Our brethren in the "District," have a small territory, and they take great advantage of the circumstance by meeting in Grand ☐—one would almost suppose—as often as they happen into town. At one of their frequent assemblings, called Semi-Annual by way of distinction, the Grand Master delivered his address. He first calls the attention of the Grand ☐ to the power it possesses of enacting a uniform code of By-Laws for the government of Subordinates, and deduces that power from the "thirty-ninth article adopted by the Grand ☐ of England in 1721." Your committee have no doubt of the existence of such a power, the only question being upon the utility of its exercise. The Grand ☐ refused to adopt a uniform code by a vote of 27 to 23.

Among the visitors at the May Communication, 1858, we find the names of M. W. G. H. Hubbard, G. M. of New Hampshire, R. W. Rob. Morris, D. G. M. of Kentucky, and M. W. A. T. C. Pierson, G. M. of Minnesota.

Forms of prayer to be used in the F. C. and Master's Degrees were adopted. A resolution was adopted favoring the formation of a General Grand ☐. A special committee, previously appointed, to whom had been referred a preamble and resolution relative to examinations previous to advancement, made a report so full of good sense—an article, by the way, with which the chairman, B. B. French, is uncommonly well stocked—that we copy it for the general good:

"That one of the great benefits derived from becoming a Freemason, (and perhaps the greatest) is the ability of the brother to make himself known to his brethren in all parts of the world. The Freemason who can not do this, upon being turned away from the door of a ☐, not only experiences deep mortification, but often inflicts upon himself by his attempt to pass, a serious injury; for if personally a stranger, he incurs the risk of being pronounced an impostor, and in all his subsequent associations outside the ☐ room, with those who have the knowledge of his abortive effort, will be sure to be treated as such, until he can, in some way, convince them that he is a genuine brother. This proposition is certainly incontrovertible. Then, is it not the duty of every ☐ so to instruct a candidate as he progresses, that he may never be placed in the awkward and mortifying predicament of being turned away from the door of a ☐ in consequence of ignorance?

"Let us suppose a brother, who has been rushed through the three Degrees, as your committee have known candidates to be. He starts upon a journey; arriving at a point where he finds a Masonic ☐, he seeks to visit it. He applies in the ante-room for examination, and in due time a committee is detailed to examine him. The preliminaries (such as we all know them) are gone through, and he has made known to the examiners that he hails from ☐, say in the District of Columbia. The regular examination commences, but stops nearly as soon as it begins. Everything, perhaps, is done by the courtesy of the examiners, that it is proper to do, to enable the applicant to recall *something* by which he may satisfy them that he is a Freemason; but the barrier of ignorance is too firm to be removed; and the committee, with heavy hearts, perhaps, turn the applicant adrift, with the remark, 'Can it be possible that our brethren in the District of Columbia would permit a candidate to pass the ordeal of Freemasonry in such ignorance as the applicant who has just left us?'

"One of two conclusions would necessarily follow such result—either that the applicant was an impostor, or that the ☐ in which he was made was ignorant of its duties.

"Your committee have many a time met men who assured them they were Master Masons, but who coupled the assurance with the assertion that they could not prove themselves such, for they were hurried through the Degrees so fast that *they had no time to learn*, and since had no opportunity to lecture.

"This hurried way of making Masons is wrong. It is a fraud upon the persons made, a fraud upon the Brotherhood, and a disgrace to the jurisdiction where they are made."

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence made a report, giving a summary of other Grand ☐ Proceedings, our own included.

#### FLORIDA.

Grand Master Henry in his address calls the attention of the brethren specially to the subject of intemperance, as an evil which he fears is "increasing to an extent already injurious to many of the Craft and to Masonry." He hopes an enactment will be made lead-



ing to prompt and decisive action, saying, "vague or abstract resolutions will not do; the attack is now acute, and the treatment should be prompt and vigorous."

A committee appointed for the purpose, report that they have after much labor and research, procured a copy of the Proceedings of that jurisdiction for each year, from the Convention in 1830 to the year 1858, and say they believe it is the only compilation that can ever be obtained. Another committee reported in favor of publishing the compilation, but nothing more appears relative to it. A P. G. Master's jewel was presented to M. W. Bro. Thomas Brown, as a testimonial of the high appreciation by the Grand ☐ of his valuable services to Masonry.

M. W. Bro. Brown presented the report on Foreign Correspondence, which was unanimously adopted. He says in his introduction:

"One great evil is prominent in much that is written—too great a desire to *improve Masonry*. It is to be seen in the multiplicity of written Constitutions adopted by Grand ☐, and in a restless spirit which proposes alterations and amendments. We see this in the history of the Grand ☐ of Florida; not yet numbering thirty years of existence; we have had several new Constitutions, and not one that has not been amended, and if the amendments were improvements, we might hope in time to settle down on something that would be permanent; but, as in all instances of hasty and inconsiderate legislation, they tend to impair. All this may be traced to the want of a correct knowledge of what are the old Constitutions and regulations of Masonry, called 'Ancient Landmarks,' (which cannot be altered nor changed,) and the inherent right of Grand ☐ to legislate for the benefit of the Craft within their respective jurisdictions."

Bro. Brown takes your chairman over a "rough road," for complaining of his language in a controversy with New York, then on the good brother's hands. We did say what we thought to be a fact, that Bro. Brown got excited and used hard words. A re-petition of his report does not remove the impression. We alluded to the bubbling of bad blood. Bro. Brown says of the author of our report—after paying a compliment all the more prized because of what follows: "If he will wait until his *bubbling* mind has time to work off its gaseous fluids, we have hopes that he will make a very prominent reporter of Grand ☐ Proceedings!" Now, we submit that our M. W. Brother ought to feel he is even with us—if not a bubble ahead. We cannot pursue the controversy, however. Since our last report, your chairman has had the pleasure and the honor to take the hand of many a brother chairman from other jurisdictions, our brother of Florida among the number; and when that venerable old man, who has borne the burden and heat of many a long day of toil, and who, after a career of such usefulness, both to his country and to Masonry, as the writer of this has no hope of imitating, is now far down the journey of life—well along in "this

pilgrimage of woe"—when *he* gave us that hearty shake, kindly smile, and pleasant greeting, we had no words to confess our shame and sorrow for having sat in judgment upon his sturdy style of battling for what he deemed to be the right. If it will be any satisfaction, we confess that nothing in Bro. Brown's style was so ungenerous or every way unmasonic as the returning shot from the New York committee. But Bro. King and Bro. Brown have made peace, and shaken hands in mutual regret and friendship; we are willing to be forgiven also. Our M. W. Brother does not need any *compliment* from us: his age and position, his services and rewards, place him beyond that point where neglect to praise, or half praise, even, implies a want of will to praise.

### ILLINOIS.

It has been noticed of our own jurisdiction, that at our Grand Communications a Master Mason's ☐ is first opened as preparatory to opening the Grand ☐ itself. Bro. Reynolds thus chronicles the method pursued in Illinois:

"A Constitutional number of ☐ being represented, the Grand ☐ was opened by the M. W. Grand Master in the *first, second and third* Degrees of Masonry in ample form, and with solemn prayer by Rev. Bro. C. Howard."

Grand Master Dills commences his address as follows:

"*Officers and brethren of the M. W. Grand ☐ of Illinois* :—We are now at the close of our eighteenth year as a Grand ☐.

"We commenced in the year A. L. 5840, with six ☐, and less than one hundred members.

"The number at this time is two hundred and thirty-nine chartered ☐, with forty-four under Dispensation, making in all two hundred and eighty-three, with about ten thousand members, besides a large number of non-affiliated Master Masons to the number of four or five thousand. The increase of Masonry and the increase of population in Illinois since 1854, has no precedent in ancient or modern history."

He cautions the brethren against rivalry, saying, "there appears to be too great a disposition among the ☐ to make Masons rapidly and not well, or in other words, to obtain quantity rather than quality. By all means get good material, and work it and finish it well." He reports having obtained some information of the existence of a former Grand ☐ of Illinois, which existed prior to the year 1827, and held its last annual convocation in the winter of '27-8, and had a constituency of eleven or twelve ☐. He recommends that steps be taken towards securing a permanent home for the Grand ☐, by appointing a committee "to purchase a suitable site and make proper arrangements for building a hall commensurate with our standing and dignity and the character of the State of Illinois," and alludes to the fact that "the Grand ☐ of Indiana, less in its numbers and in its wealth, has now a property worth

\$50,000, nearly paid for." The whole address was referred to a committee, who made a very complimentary report upon it, and recommend that a committee be appointed to confer with a committee from the Grand Chapter relative to the erection of a Hall. The recommendation was adopted.

We notice that in the order of Proceedings, the Committee on Credentials did not report until the second day of the session; previous to which, considerable business was transacted, the address was delivered, the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence was read, considered and *adopted*, and fifteen resolutions thereto appended were unanimously concurred in!

A resolution was passed regulating the distribution of the printed Proceedings of the Grand ☐, making the proportion among the ☐ as follows: "five copies to each ☐ having one hundred members; four copies to each ☐ having from sixty to one hundred members; three copies to each ☐ having from twenty to sixty members; and two copies to each ☐ having less than twenty members. Also, providing for one hundred copies for use of Grand ☐ at its session, two hundred copies to be preserved for new ☐, and one hundred copies to be bound in leather and board and preserved in G. . . ☐ library."

Some rather strong resolutions were adopted, one complimenting the retiring G. . . M. . . M. . . W. . . Bro. Dills; one declaring of the R. . . W. . . Grand Treasurer, that "while the *old Governor* lives, which God grant may be a long time, Freemasonry may feel confident that she has to sustain and support her, a *strong pillar*, founded on a rock, against which the '*powers of darkness*' can never prevail," and saying that "in R. . . W. . . Brother Harmon G. Reynolds, this Grand ☐ has a model Grand Secretary, and we defy the *world* to beat him." We do not enter the lists under this last challenge, and in regard to the Grand Treasurer's being such a paragon, we have only to say, that our R. . . W. . . Brother Wm. McMurtry must be a "regular CASE."

The report on Foreign Correspondence was made by R. . . W. . . Brother Reynolds, and ranks high among the many very able reports which we have perused. In noticing the controversy between New York and Vermont, Brother Reynolds, who is himself, we believe, a Green Mountain boy by birth, and certainly equal to one in independence and energy—makes the following defense of M. . . W. . . Bro. Tucker's sharp retorts:

"It is very natural for such a temper as that of Brother Tucker's, after having fought the Anti-Masons, blow for blow, for long years, then to be obliged to write his Grand ☐ into recognition by the Masonic world, with all the overshadowing influence of New York against him—after

having stepped forward to defend the Grand ☐ of New York against the Phillips' party—after having promptly accorded to New York all her rights in matters of jurisdiction—it is very natural for such a temper as his to show itself under such provocation. If he states the truth, (and it is nowhere denied,) the first committee are highly censurable for the course they pursued.

"New York originally claimed Vermont as a part of her territory. Through the influence of her talented men in the Provincial Congress, she kept her out of the confederation during the entire period of the revolution, and for years afterwards. New Hampshire and Massachusetts did the same. Thus she was surrounded by British Territory in the north, New York on the west, Massachusetts, south, and New Hampshire, east; all claiming the territory, all rivals of each other, and all antagonistical to her. Despite all this, she maintained her independence, subdued the savages within her borders, sustained a home government, and contributed her quota in money and men to carry on the revolutionary war, and few names are dearer to American Freedom than that of him who captured Ticonderoga in the name of Deity and the Continental Congress—General ETHAN ALLEN. It was this that gave the name of Switzerland to the Green Mountains. Go to her school houses, and among the first things taught is the early history of the State. As in all mountainous countries, so it is there. Devoted to the doctrines of civil freedom, the chivalric deeds of their ancestors are rehearsed around the mountain firesides, and the heart and head are schooled to submit to no oppression—to resist all aggression, come from where it may. And it is ever true, that sincere men, of decided traits of character, surrounded by such influences, are apt to write and speak as they feel. We acknowledge it is not always good policy to do so. We as cheerfully acknowledge that it is not always, nay even, not often, Masonic. Still, Masonic or unmasonic, in such cases, the general sympathy is with him who is evidently in the right.

"And as Vermont is a small, though Spartan State, and New York a large and powerful one, any injury, slight or provocation from New York is more quickly and keenly felt, owing to the reasons your committee have specified, than they would be if they came from any other quarter. We are not defending Brother Tucker, he is able to do that himself."

### INDIANA.

The address of G. M. Bayless is long, but there is no place—at least for a brother outside that jurisdiction—to prune it, were he set to the task; we should judge that Indiana, like Minnesota, was beset by one monster bane, for the Most Worshipful, after his introductory remarks, attacks intemperance, and we find the Grand ☐ supports that attack by passing a resolution by which Subordinate ☐ were "unconditionally prohibited from conferring the several Degrees in Symbolic Masonry upon any applicant who is habitually intoxicated, or who makes it his business to manufacture or sell the same to be used as a beverage." Under the heading "Progress of the Order," quite full statistics are given. From them we learn that the Grand ☐ has been in active operation over forty years; that within the last ten years, the Subordinate ☐ have increased over one hundred and fifty per cent., and the membership over two hundred and seventy-five per cent.; and that in 1858, of two hundred and forty-three ☐, two only neglected to make returns.

The Grand Master complains of Kentucky for making Masons of residents of Indiana. "This course," says he, "I considered ungen-

erous on the part of our Kentucky neighbors, although material *is* abundant in the quarries of Indiana, and just such as might be desired to build up a Masonic edifice in *any* jurisdiction." He calls attention to the importance of a reprint of the Proceedings of the Grand ☐, saying what we have found verified in our examinations, that this subject is occupying the attention of nearly all the Grand ☐ in the Union. The decisions of the Grand Master were referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, and were adopted by the G. ☐. They were twenty-three in number. We quote a few of them :

"1. The ☐ under whose jurisdiction a non-affiliated Mason resides, is the only one to try him for unmasonic conduct committed in that jurisdiction.

"2. A ☐ in whose jurisdiction an unmasonic act is committed, should proceed to charge and try the case, and not compel the witnesses to attend the sittings of committees appointed by the ☐ of which the accused is a member, as the witnesses and injured parties should be accommodated in preference to the party charged.

"13. Non-affiliated Masons who have resided within our jurisdiction over six months, have no legal claim upon the ☐ or Craft for assistance.

"21. A Mason expelled or suspended by a Subordinate ☐ in a sister jurisdiction, and during the continuance of the sentence, moves into our jurisdiction, should be required to apply to the ☐ that has passed the sentence, to reinstate him if within the power of the ☐, and if not, then to recommend our Grand ☐ to restore."

We notice in a report of the Committee on Grievances, the following proposition laid down, which was concurred in by the ☐.

"It is a well established fact in Masonic law that a brother cannot be a member of two Subordinate ☐ at the same time; and \* \* \* Bro. Jas. Benefield having signed the petition for a new ☐ his membership ceases in Carlisle ☐ and attaches to the new ☐.

That the above fact, as it is called, is well established in Masonic law, is news to your committee, and we are hardly prepared to assent to it. The Indiana Grand ☐ has made discoveries in Masonic Jurisprudence before unknown to the Craft in other instances. She must have a "mine" not accessible to the Brotherhood at large.

In addition to the resolution we have already referred to, prohibiting the reception of a candidate who is habitually intoxicated, or who manufactures or sells intoxicating liquors (Indiana whiskey,) as a beverage, resolutions were passed providing for the trial of Masons engaged in the business, and making it the special duty of the Junior Warden to see that these resolutions were strictly enforced, under penalty of being himself held amenable. The fourth resolution is as follows :

"Resolved, That the moral law of Masonry, founded upon the first great light in Masonry, (the Holy Bible,) is the highest moral law known to man, and that it is not in the power of any legislative body to so legalize that which is morally wrong as to make it proper or morally right for any Mason to practice the legalized wrong."

This legislation of the Indiana Grand ☐, will, without doubt,

provoke a good deal of discussion in sister Grand Bodies. We have alluded to the subject elsewhere. "It is a great moral question."

There is no report on Foreign Correspondence, but the Proceedings show the appointment of a committee to prepare one for the ensuing year. Among the visitors at this session of the Grand □, we find the names of G. . L. . of Michigan, the G. . S. . of Illinois, the Grand Masters of Illinois, Kentucky and Canada West, the P. . G. . M. ., D. . G. . M. . and P. . G. . L. . of Ohio.

#### IOWA.

Masonry is in good hands in this State so far as relates to its first officers; with M. . W. . Bro. J. R. Hartsock in the Grand East, and R. . W. . Bro. T. S. Parvin filling the important post of Grand Secretary, the body of the craft must be indeed a derelict set, if Iowa does not maintain her position in the front rank among the several jurisdictions of this country. The Grand Master's address is a model paper. He says of that Communication, "this is the largest representation of □ we have yet had in this jurisdiction," there being present the representatives of more than one hundred and twenty of the one hundred and forty-seven □. After drawing a brilliant picture of the rapid advance of art and science, he thus declares the nobler progress of our Order:

"With all this wonderful march of science and triumph of art, Masonry keeps pace. Side by side with them it enters the wilderness and tames the wastes, and builds the cities, and cultivates the earth; and a pace in advance, it protects the widow and educates the orphan—fraternizes the race, and blesses man. Its science is as profound, and its art as important as any that can claim the thoughts and occupy the hands of man. Its science is the science of human amelioration, and its art that of self-cultivation and perfection."

The rapid and *healthy* growth of Masonry in Iowa indicates a population of that genuine kind which "constitutes a State." Although "less than twenty years since the sound of the gavel was first heard on the western shore of the Mississippi," and only eighteen years since "delegates from four □ (with a total membership of one hundred and one,) met in convention to form the Grand □," the aggregate membership is now stated at about four thousand. Bro. Parvin in his statistical tables, gives three thousand nine hundred and fifty members, and one hundred and thirty-nine chartered □. But, better than any numerical prosperity is the cheering assurance that while "physical Masonry has advanced, covering the western plains with towns and cities," our ancient Order has been true to its mission, and "moral Masonry has kept equal pace, and covered the land with peaceful fruits of its handiwork; has reared its altars in every town and hamlet; by the borders of every stream and grove, from the banks of the Mississippi to the shores of the



great river in the west; from the borders of the Missouri in the south, to the Minnesota line in the north." The Grand Master devoted more than half the year to his official work, visiting one hundred and sixteen [ ] , traveling two thousand nine hundred and forty-one miles, and lecturing to more than two thousand brethren, making two hundred and seven days of absence from his home. Probably no Grand Master in the United States can say half as much as that. No one who has never met M. W. Bro. Hartsock face to face, will rightly estimate the amount of pleasure as well as instruction his genial presence in so many places must have caused. At home, he received and answered about four hundred letters, requiring more or less thought and investigation. For various reasons he recommends that the election of officers in Subordinate [ ] be held at the stated meetings before the meeting of the Grand [ ] , but that no installation of officers take place until after the close of the Grand [ ] . This recommendation was adopted. The following opinion of M. W. Bro. Hartsock, is worthy of consideration :

"I hold that no charge should be made for membership or affiliation. It is felt to be oppressive for those who have been paying dues in one [ ] or jurisdiction, and who have dmitted for the purpose of joining another [ ] , to be compelled to pay from one to three dollars for membership. One great object should be to bring in all the non-affiliated; let none be rejected for want of a small fee; let all be upon the same level and bear the burdens of Masonry together.

After this liberal, and we are by no means disposed to say improper recommendation, the Grand Master might well advocate stringent measures against the non-affiliated. He holds them up in their true light, and after alluding to the magnitude of the evil, expresses the hope that the Grand [ ] will, if possible, devise some means to remedy it. The committee to whom the address was referred, reported legislation upon the fee for membership inexpedient, as being a financial matter belonging to the Subordinate [ ] alone, and recommended the appointment of a committee of three, versed in Masonry, to investigate the subject of non-affiliation.

The report of the Grand Secretary, among other things, gives the history of the defalcation of the former Grand Treasurer, who, failing in business, had gone to California, and left the Grand [ ] his creditor to the amount of \$800. This was a severe loss, coming as it did just at a time when a reprint of the prior Proceedings was going on, and much embarrassment, delay and labor resulted from it. In relating the transaction, the Grand Secretary takes occasion to show up the beginning of it as follows :

"Here I cannot in justice to the Craft at large, and the Grand [ ] in particular, refrain from an allusion to the scenes enacted at the last session in reference to this matter. The most unblushing schemes of electioneering were practiced upon the floor of the Grand [ ] by 'outsiders,' as well

as members of the Grand ☐, which by a vote had permitted 'all affiliated Masons in good standing to visit the Grand ☐ during its session.' The G. S. Deacon was however directed to 'seat said visitors separate from the members of the Grand ☐.

It is only within a few years past that this worst of political tricks, *electioneering* for office, has been introduced into our halls, and the sooner the Grand ☐ frown it down, the better for her welfare; her peace and harmony depend upon its being promptly checked. Offices are created for the convenience of the Grand ☐, and brethren should be made for the office, not the office for the brethren."

In 1855, the Grand ☐ of Iowa passed the following resolution, as a general regulation :

"That Masonry, as we have received it from our fathers, teaches the divine authenticity of the Holy Scriptures, and that the views of candidates on this subject, should be ascertained by the committee of inquiry, or otherwise, as well as their other qualifications and fitness to be received into the Order."

At this Communication, the following resolutions, referring to the above, were passed :

"*Resolved*, That while the Grand ☐ of Iowa yields to none in its respect and affection for the great light of Masonry, it deems any legislation on the subject an innovation ; therefore

*Resolved*, That the resolution adopted as a general regulation, at the G. S. Annual Communication of 1855, at Keosauqua, and found on page 116 of the second volume of the reprint of the Proceedings of this Grand ☐ be, and the same is hereby rescinded."

A resolution was passed condemning generally all legislation upon the ritual, lectures and charges of Masonry, and another, deprecating all additions to or subtractions from the ancient tests and ancient customs, as "subversive of the groundwork and existence of our Order."

Among the many questions answered by Brother Parvin as chairman of the Committee on Jurisprudence, is the following : "Can we recognize a non-affiliated Mason on rumor, or must he apply to visit our ☐ first?" Brother Parvin of course answers that we "must have the same evidence as is requisite to admit him to the ☐ as a visitor." We only notice this because brethren, to our knowledge, talk a good deal about men whom they thoughtlessly *call* Masons, because those men *claim* to be Masons, when they have never presented themselves in the examining room, although living for years within a stone's throw of the ☐. Our own rule is never to recognize by word, sign or token of any sort, the street declarations of such persons. With them we have neither eye to see nor ear to hear, and all their assertions "on the square," all their allusions, and all their pantomimes, are suffered with a most stolid and unintelligent face.

Brother Parvin's statistical tables are very full and well arranged. It is a department in which he figures very much to his own credit as well as to inform the Craft.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence was presented by R. W. Brother John Scott, the G. S. Warden. It is a treasury of good things. The remarks upon the Alabama case we have quoted in our notice of that jurisdiction. Bro. Scott rather complains of the Grand ☐ of Indiana, for affirming the expulsion by a Subordinate ☐ of a brother for being engaged in the manufacture and sale of whiskey, saying, that "expulsion for following a legal trade, calling, or occupation in a lawful manner, is not endorsed" by the committee. There is, to be sure, great danger of intolerance in deciding many of these moral questions; but to be obliged to sit in a *Masonic* ☐, and talk upon the beauties of the moral law, cultivate love, nourish hope, and strengthen faith, with a being who would first manufacture and then *sell* Indiana whiskey, would be intolerable. With the horrible effects of that purely villainous poison patent in our midst, we honor our brethren who dare to step forward and face the charge of bigotry rather than have their halls polluted and their Brotherhood scandalized by such a wholesale panderer to an appetite which destroys both soul and body. "Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet and bitter?" The following shot at Indiana legislation is well thrown:

"The Grand Master says: 'We now, as a Grand ☐ occupy a high and commanding position; we compare favorably with any other jurisdiction in the Union.' It were a great pity to take the starch out of such evidently satisfactory self-complacency, and if your committee had the most remote idea that anything which could be said by such humble individuals as themselves could have such a disastrous effect, their tongues would cleave to the roof of their mouths at the thought. But your committee feel disposed to caution the Grand ☐ of Indiana not to set aside more than ten or fifteen more of the indubitable landmarks, else she may be in such a 'high position' as to be beyond the reach of more humble Grand ☐ in fraternal correspondence."

In regard to the duties and province of an investigating committee, Bro. Scott holds as follows, after upholding the inviolable secrecy of the ballot:

"But your committee go further than this. They have to say that circumstances may arise that would demand that a member of a committee should suffer his name to be appended to a favorable report, and at the same time demand that he reject the applicant at the ballot box. It is only necessary to suppose the committee man in possession of facts, the publication of which, in the ☐, would seriously injure the Fraternity, or do great and unnecessary violence to worthy persons in or out of the ☐, and at the same time, such as would preclude his admission; he then has the alternative of signing his name to a report, which, as generally understood, means nothing more than a recommendation that the ballot be passed, or of raising questions involving, perhaps, the very existence of the ☐ itself. Say what you will of reports of such committees, this is all that can be made of them. 'Unfavorable' means *not worthy of a ballot*, favorable is simply the converse."

Now, if a committee's duty is to report merely upon general reputation, and if the word "favorable" means merely that the candidate's standing in community is such that the estimation in which

the Fraternity is held, would not be lessened by entertaining his petition, then we assent to Brother Scott's doctrine. One of our standing resolutions, however, makes the office of a committee of inquiry upon petitions a very different thing. [*See Proceedings of Oct., 1858, page 36.*] And a member of the committee here *could not* honestly report favorably and then use the black ball. The position of your committee upon the great ballot question is noticed as follows:

"Brother Prescott objects to the largest liberty in the use of the secret ballot; but says of arresting the progress of the candidate for advancement: 'Don't stop him by the secret ballot—a nameless objection from an unknown source—but stop him as alone he should be stopped, by stating, like a man and a Mason, that an impediment exists to further progress.' This is not the first time your committee has heard the use of the secret ballot characterized as a sneaking way of making objection to candidates, but must confess to some surprise at the charge coming from the source under consideration. The Grand Secretary of a Grand ☐ of Free-Masons, who is also author of quite an able report on Foreign Correspondence, was not expected to place himself thus upon the record. But perhaps a further extract may show whence these objections really come. The course prescribed is thus indicated: 'We dare to believe that a Mason who lives up to his principles, would have no hesitancy, if he felt called upon to stop a brother's advancement, in saying enough to the W. M. to satisfy him that good reasons for the objections existed.' If not mistaken your committee can find this regulation almost *verbatim* among the rules of affiliation not in any wise Masonic. Let us not steal; if we must, however, *not from them*. But if the necessity is dire, let us take **SOMETHING ELSE.**"

Now, to all this we will say, first, that we do *not* object to the largest liberty in the use of the secret ballot, except when it is used upon *Masons*. For the uninitiated we say with Brother Scott, and would double the emphasis if possible, "the *unanimous* BALLOT is the door," and "there is no one thing more sacred as a right, or *more imperative as a duty*, than the silent, unquestioned use of the ballot and all action connected therewith." Secondly, in reply to the exhortation, "let us not steal," we add—let us not bear false witness. The chairman of this committee is a member of *one* secret society only—that of Free and Accepted Masons—and he neither knows nor cares anything whatever about either the secrets or the "rules of affiliation" of any other. Whether Brother Scott is a Know Nothing, an Odd Fellow, or a Son of Malta, is more than we can guess—the knowledge he betrays is too much for us, and therefore we can not fully sympathize in his frenzied desire "to take *something else*."

Brother Scott has so well answered the stricture of the Michigan committee upon a remark of our Grand Master, that we copy it in preference to making our own reply, thanking the brother for his friendly defence:

"In reviewing the remarks of Grand Master Pierson, in which he suggests that he has secured uniformity of work, but 'does not deem it desirable that precisely the same words should be used under all circumstan-

ces, lest the ☐ room become monotonous,' the Michigan committee say: 'With such an individual choice of synonymous words and phrases, we should fear that in process of time, (and that, too, perhaps not long in the future,) the original work and lectures would be difficult of recognition.'

"It may reasonably be presumed that Brother Fenton has misapprehended the drift of Brother Pierson's remarks. Your committee agree with those who permit no variation in so much of the Masonic ritual as appertains to the recognition of a Mason. Let that be uniform; and, as far as practicable, let all whose business it is to dispense light therein, be 'letter perfect,' as our Virginia brethren say. In all else, and particularly in those portions styled 'monitorial,' historical or philosophical, let the intelligent Master instruct the neophyte according to his own abilities, and the tastes, habits, and capacities of the material in his hands. As well might the operative mason attempt to work each block under his hands into a key-stone, with a prospect of succeeding, and in case of success, to build his wall of keystones, as for the Master of a ☐ to give the same parrot-like instruction to each initiate for a twelvemonth together. In this we waive all consideration of the tedium produced among the assembled brethren—though it is not the least weighty objection."

#### KANSAS.

The address of Grand Master Rees is quite lengthy, and a very earnest one. "A little more than two years since," says he, "we launched our slender bark upon the turbid stream; three ☐ then comprised our strength; we now have twenty in the field of operation. But whether this progression argues strength or weakness, time must yet determine. I can not now congratulate the Order, until I know the quarries from which the stones are gathered, until the specimens are tested in the purifying fires, until they shall have passed the overseer's square."

The subject of non-affiliation is examined at length, and the G. Master steps boldly forth, "opposed to most of the Grand ☐ of America," in advocating the rights of those stingy drones who don't belong anywhere and wont do anything but prey. He knocks down the whole modern system of "ostracizing the non-affiliated," as he terms it, by "asking these advocates of ostracism when affiliation first began? Were there ☐ in the days of Rehoboam?" We acknowledge ourselves "floored," and ask that the question be referred to the "grand magnificent camp meeting," to be held at York, England, ten years from the 24th day of June next.

The Proceedings of the Grand ☐ are of local interest merely, except the re-election of the Grand Master, notwithstanding his announcement that "as I have passed the *summit* of life and am traveling upon its declivity, I wish to cease my Masonic labors so far as official duties are concerned."

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is by the Grand Secretary, R. W. Brother Chas. Mundee, whose modesty and diffidence are in striking contrast with the daring Quixotism of the Grand Master. Bro. Mundee makes a most energetic apology

for his appearance in the same field with Mackey, King and O'Sullivan, and declares at the outset that he "shall omit all private remarks on the Proceedings of other Grand [ ]"; will not recommend the adoption of any resolutions which are now pending before the several Grand [ ] of the United States, but will earnestly request you to 'stay at home' until we get stronger and more enlightened; let us attend to the work in our territory and remain lookers on of what others do." He acknowledges the receipt of Proceedings from twenty-five Grand [ ], and briefly notices each. He characterizes the address of our Grand Master as "exceedingly able." In noticing the Missouri Proceedings, Bro. Mundee quotes the remark of the Grand Master, that "officers of the army have no permanent residence, which gives them a right to apply to any [ ] they may choose for membership;" and then says, "a great deal could be argued in this matter, but I suppress all private opinion, as I promised in the beginning of this report." A promise "better honored in the breach than the observance," Brother Mundee. Living as you are on the "borders," where officers of the army are near enough for one to distinguish between tinselry and truth, a word of advice, or statement of fact would be very welcome. We are happy to state that Brother Mundee was continued as chairman of the Foreign Correspondence Committee. His report gives promise of something good when he shall "let himself out."

#### LOUISIANA.

The forty-seventh Annual Communication of this Grand [ ] gives us one hundred and fourteen pages of Proceedings, ninety-six pages of returns, eleven pages of statistics, one hundred and fourteen pages of report from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and nine pages of suspensions and expulsions. One statistical table, being an "abstract and statistics from Proceedings of Grand [ ], of the United States, &c.," must have required much time and research to prepare, if it is correct; and that it is so we have two credible assurances—first the name of our R. W. Brother Risk as its author, and secondly, the testimony of Bro. J. Q. A. Fellows, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, who says: "We know from personal inspection, that they required no small amount of labor, for not resting satisfied with the additions and compilations of others, as published in the various Grand [ ] Proceedings, particular pains have been taken to verify each item by a comparison with the actual returns as published." Thirty-six Grand [ ] are included in the table, and the column headed "Members Returned," foots up 190,688. The Grand [ ] dues amount to \$142,403.53. New York gives the greatest number of Masons, and Georgia the next great-



est. Louisiana figures highest in the money column, Pennsylvania next. The oldest Grand ☐ is that of Massachusetts, organized in 1733.

The address of the Grand Master is mainly upon matters of local interest. He urges a raising of the standard for the qualifications of applicants, saying, that "with the information presented annually by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, publication of periodicals, the dissemination of Masonic books, and other sources, if we do not become enlightened Masons, it is our own fault." He reports having decided, "that a candidate with but *one ear* constituted such a defect, or malformation, as to preclude him from enjoying the privileges of the Order. A committee to whom this matter was referred by the Grand ☐, reported as follows, and the report was adopted:

"A candidate should be able to see, hear, feel and walk, and should be in such possession of his physical and mental faculties as will enable him to fully prove both himself and others, and be enabled to obtain thereby a living, that he may not become a charge to the Order."

This does not reach the case reported by the Grand Master, for the inference is that the one-eared candidate could hear. We are inclined to the opinion that no specific rule can be laid down in such matters. Much must be left to the good sense of the presiding officer in deciding upon individual cases. The happy mean between ears too long and no ears at all, cannot be so definitely settled as to bear a written description; and a man with a single ear—provided it is a good one—would be far preferable, in our judgment, to many a man with two, who uses one to let out what with toil and trouble is dinned into the other. The Grand ☐ is strongly urged to collect the materials and cause a history of Freemasonry in the State to be published. This recommendation was adopted, and Bros. J. Q. A. Fellows, Edw. Barnett and Sam'l G. Risk, were appointed a committee to prepare such history. The report of the W. L. M. of Louisiana Relief ☐, gives a history of the rise and progress of that "noble little band of Samaritans," as the Grand Secretary well calls it. The original cause for instituting this ☐ was the discovery of a systematic imposition upon the Craft by a set of mendicant miscreants, who prowled from ☐ to ☐ with most pitiful appeals to the noble and generous sympathies of the Order. This Relief ☐ keeps a register, in which the names of all applicants for relief are entered, whence they hail, full particulars of each case recorded, and the amount of relief, if any, granted. "During the past summer," says the report, "another epidemic visited our city, and spread desolation in our midst. Many and urgent were the calls upon the Relief ☐, both day and night, and

they were all attended to." The total receipts during the year were \$3,851.20, of which \$3,503.18 were disbursed. We are happy to state that none of the relieved hailed from Minnesota. Speaking of the money disbursed, the report says :

"But this sum conveys a very inadequate idea of the 'Work' done by this ☐. The assistance rendered and the relief afforded cannot be computed by dollars and cents. During the epidemic, the time and attention bestowed upon the sick by this ☐ was very great, and these services were all rendered gratuitously. No charge appears for the vaults in which our deceased brethren were buried, as they belong to the Relief ☐; and to many members of the medical profession we are under obligations for services rendered, either gratuitously or at a merely nominal consideration."

The reward for doing unto others as ye would that they should do unto you, is not promised as coming from the recipient of the favor; otherwise, this Relief ☐ might well become weary in well-doing, for the report contains the melancholy statement, that "notwithstanding the promises made to write and return the money loaned, [to enable them to return to their homes,] as soon as the applicants would reach their homes, during the past year only one brother has refunded the amount granted, and another has written to the ☐ thanking them for their kindness.

We alluded last year to the secession of three ☐ from the jurisdiction of the Grand ☐. One of them, St. Andrews ☐, No. 5, petitioned to return, and stated the circumstances under which they were seduced from their allegiance, by certain evil minded emissaries who took advantage of their ignorance of the English language to misrepresent matters to them. The charter was returned to the ☐, and its officers were subsequently duly installed.

During the session, a presentation was made to P. G. M. Wm. M. Perkins, of a goblet of pure gold, costing \$317.40, "as an appropriate and fitting symbol to be given to one who for four years occupied the position of Grand Master, presided over their deliberations, and to whose wise and careful management that Grand ☐ owes mainly its present prosperous condition.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence makes few quotations, but gives the opinions of its chairman at length upon quite a number of subjects. Bro. Fellows wields the pen of a ready writer. He puts himself down as a disbeliever "in those inherent rights" of Grand Masters or any other grand dignitaries, such as are alluded to by R. W. Bro. Abel, in a report which we noticed last year. He advocates the right of appeal from the Grand Master's decision, and does not know "of any such grant of power as confers upon him the right to refuse" it. Upon the college question, Bro. Fellows says :

"The duties of Masons are in the ☐, and in the immediate social cir-

cle around, and never should be extended to any financial operations except such as may be required to procure the means to administer to the wants of those around. When large investments are made for some future intended great charity so called, those funds are hoarded up for the benefit of future generations, who in all probability would be better capable of administering to their own wants, and money is squandered in the attempt to invest which should be applied to the relief and the wants of the present."

The practice of requiring all the business of a □ to be done in a Master's Degree, is regarded as an innovation, and a return to the ancient usage, of "opening in the E. A. Degree and remain in that Degree during the whole session, except for the time necessary for transacting whatever business there might be which would pertain *exclusively* to the higher Degrees," as balloting and lecturing upon them, is urged. "No one," says our brother, "can ever again feel that interest in the lecture pertaining to the Apprentice Degree, as he will if he is an Apprentice, and most forget that nearly all the moral teachings of Freemasonry are in that Degree. All the elementary principles of the Order are there, and unless they are inculcated when the mind is not above such things, the chances are that they never will be." The subject of rites and uniformity of work is discussed at great length, but as neither the Scotch nor French Rite exists in our jurisdiction, there is no occasion for us to notice the argument. The conclusion of the whole matter is, "that the different rites are but different *names* for the same thing, used to designate differences in organization in different countries."

Speaking of the Past Master's Degree, Bro. Fellows says:

"We do not believe that the Grand □ or any Subordinate □ has of right or reason anything to do with the Degree or order of Past Master, any more than they have with the order of Knights Templars or Odd Fellowship; and for the simple reason that two-thirds of the members of the Grand □ cannot rightfully speak of one more than the other. How then, can a Grand □, by a vote or otherwise, require a Master to possess qualifications—a Degree or order—of which they cannot speak if they know, and of which many can rightfully know nothing. Many members of this Grand □ will remember the remark made by our then Grand Marshal, the late and lamented Bro. F. F. Parmele, in the Grand □ three years ago, when this question was brought up by the chairman of this committee: 'That he could not vote on the question, for his rule was ever to vote understandingly; that he knew nothing of the question, could know nothing, and no one in the Grand □ had any right to enlighten him.'"

The plan of our M. W. Grand Master for a National Masonic Congress is given entire, with the remark, "It meets our views exactly."

#### MAINE.

"There has ever existed in the hearts of all nations and races of men a desire for communion—a love for social intercourse," is the opening sentence of Grand Master Chase's address. He continues:

"Prompted by this instinct, we seek society and learn from infancy to age, through every event of the changeful drama of human life, we are dependent upon the kindest offices and liberal forbearance of our fellow men. This principle, this innate prompting, ushers nations into existence and perpetuates governments. It is this influence which gives rise to all the varied organized institutions and societies in the world, and unites kindred spirits with ties of love into our common Brotherhood.

"It is to the force of these noble impulses—these admirable phenomena, that we are indebted for the origin, perpetuity and existence of our beloved Institution, and for the privilege of this day gathering around our sacred altar, to enjoy this interchange of fraternal affection and to discharge our several duties as servants of a noble constituency."

The previous year is spoken of as one of almost universal harmony and prosperity within that jurisdiction, wherein "largely increased additions have been made to our numbers, whose standard of moral excellence will compare favorably with that of any other society." Our "ancient art" was recognized by the profane, in that the Grand ☐ was called upon by the Mayor and committee of the city of Portland to lay with Masonic ceremonies the "Head Stone of the Corner," in the foundation of the new city and county buildings. Five Dispensations for new ☐ were granted during the year.

We quote with pleasure, the following remarks of the Grand Master, relative to the ballot, because it supports our own position upon that subject:

"A practice prevails to a considerable extent throughout the ☐ in this jurisdiction, of requiring a clear ballot before a brother can be advanced to a superior Degree. This practice has created some discord in several of our ☐, and has given rise to questions of the propriety of this course. These questions have been repeatedly submitted to me for decision. The opinion which I have given is, that no ☐ is doing right that denies advancement to a brother upon the result of the secret ballot alone. The question of the admission of a candidate upon his first application, is one which every member has a right to pass upon by the secret ballot, and this right is sacred and unquestioned. The candidate has voluntarily submitted himself for acceptance or rejection; he has no rights to claim at the hands of the ☐; his character must stand the test with every individual member, whatever be the result. But upon the question of advancement, a far different state of things exists. By initiation, the candidate becomes a Mason and a brother; he is amenable to our laws and regulations, and in the ☐ has certain rights and privileges, and 'one of those rights is, that before conviction of any offence he may claim a trial before his peers.' No man makes application to a ☐ for the first Degree of Masonry alone, or the first and second, but for all the Degrees of 'symbolic Masonry.' His petition is 'to become a member of our ancient Institution,' and having been notified of his acceptance by the ☐, and received the first impress of our Institution, he is entitled to a fulfillment of the implied contract unless upon due examination he is found by his own acts to be unworthy.

"The position which I here take is sustained by Masonic brethren of distinguished ability, whose familiarity with the true principles of our Order, and unremitting researches in Masonic literature, entitle their opinions to great weight.

"I quote from the address of R.: W.: Alex. H. Putney, made to this Grand ☐ at its Annual Communication, in May, 1848. He says: 'I do most unequivocally repudiate the doctrine that a ☐ is doing right to deny advancement to an E.: A.:, provided he shall not be impeached for

any offence committed subsequent to his acceptance." Also from the Freemason's Monthly Magazine, by R. W. Chas. W. Moore, (Vol. 9, page 227,) 'A candidate may be rightfully debarred the privilege of advancing to a superior Degree for any cause that if known would have prevented his admission to the first Degree—a substantive reason must be given, and it must be such as would sustain a charge against his moral character; of its sufficiency, however, the ☐ is to determine.'

We make the following abstract from the Proceedings of the Grand ☐:

"M. W. F. Bradford presented a Commission from the Grand ☐ of Minnesota to M. W. Joseph C. Stevens, appointing him Representative of that body to the Grand ☐ of Maine, which having been read, Bro. Stevens was presented and welcomed by the Grand Master as the Representative of the Grand ☐ of Minnesota, and in a brief and appropriate address tendered the fraternal regards of the Grand ☐ of Minnesota to the Grand ☐ of Maine.

"On motion of R. W. J. H. Drummond, *voted* that M. W. Joseph C. Stevens be accepted and recognized by this Grand ☐ as the Representative of the Grand ☐ of Minnesota.

"A Representative from the Grand ☐ of Minnesota having been commissioned by the Grand Master of that State, and received by the Grand ☐ of Maine,

"*Resolved*, That the Grand ☐ of Maine cordially reciprocate the proposition for an interchange of Representatives, and that our M. W. G. Master be authorized and requested to commission some suitable brother as our Representative to the Grand ☐ of Minnesota."

A question of jurisdiction has arisen between the Grand ☐ of Maine and England, which has given occasion to some correspondence and elicited from Grand Master Earl, of Zetland, an opinion which cannot find any acceptance in the United States. It seems that Union ☐, at St. Stephens, in the Province of New Brunswick, has been in the habit of initiating persons from the neighboring village of Calais, Maine. An agreement was once entered into with St. Croix ☐, at Calais, by which Union ☐ was to abstain from such invasion. It was, however, constantly disregarded, and the grievances of St. Croix ☐ were "aggravated by the offensive action of Union ☐ in admitting persons from this (Maine) jurisdiction, who could not gain admission to our ☐, but who went to St. Stephens and received the Degrees, and then returned to insult St. Croix ☐ by their demands for admission as visitors." Upon a full statement of the facts to the Grand ☐ of England, the Grand Master replies as follows:

"The case divides itself into two parts. First, as to the right of a ☐ to initiate persons residing in a country under another Masonic jurisdiction; and secondly, what course of action a ☐ ought to pursue which has, by its own act, divested itself of such right.

"With respect to the first part, the M. W. Grand Master is of the opinion that every ☐ possesses the abstract right to initiate any person whom it may consider fit and proper, without considering where his residence may be. For example: ☐ in the county of Northumberland have an undoubted right to initiate persons residing in Scotland, and ☐ in Scotland have a similar right to initiate persons in England. Nor could the Grand ☐ of either country complain of or object to such a pro-

ceeding. It is proper for the person who seeks admittance into the Order, to select the ☐ in which he wishes to be initiated.

"With regard to the second part of the question, as to the course a ☐ ought to pursue, that has by its own act divested itself of such right, and has bound itself not to initiate any individual residing in the territory under another Masonic jurisdiction, such arrangement—not being at variance with the spirit of the constitutions under which they act—ought to be carried out faithfully, even though attended at times with some slight inconvenience.

"But independently of any existing arrangements, the M. W. Grand Master is of opinion that it is not desirable nor convenient that a ☐ should bind itself to confine its initiations to residents in its own immediate locality; or that it should only initiate persons residing over a certain territorial boundary line with the consent of a ☐ working on the other side of such line, even with the proviso—proposed by Union ☐—that sufficient reasons should be given for withholding such consent. And it must be self-evident, that when one ☐ gives the reasons, and the other is to be the judge whether those reasons are sufficient, frequent difficulties and disputes are sure to arise."

Brother Pearl from the committee to whom this subject was referred, well remarks:

"If this doctrine were allowed, it would justify every ☐ upon our borders, from Quoddy Head around the Northern Territories of our State to the line of New Hampshire, to invade the jurisdiction of this Grand ☐ at its pleasure, and caution them not to divest themselves of the right to do so. It would establish the same right of invasion in every State of this Union, bordering on the British Territory, across the Continent to the shores of the Pacific. Against this doctrine we desire to record a solemn protest. Nor is the case at all justified or relieved by the illustration introduced in reference to Scotland and Northumberland. If the Grand ☐ of England has the right to allow or justify such a course in its island home, and between different portions of its own territory, where the ocean barriers protect its boundaries, it does not follow that she can enforce the same doctrine within a foreign jurisdiction, and justify a border warfare like this complained of."

Brother Pearl also charges the doctrine as being "directly at variance with the sixth proposition put forth by the Universal Masonic Congress at Paris, to wit: "Before proceeding to the initiation of a non-resident, inquiry shall be made of the authorities of the country to which the candidate owes allegiance, except in well authenticated cases of emergency."

We do not see how the M. W. Grand Master of England can maintain his position, either as a matter of courtesy or of abstract right. If different Grand ☐ are allowed in the world, they must have their physical boundaries. The very term jurisdiction implies subjection. It is the *residence* and not the simple *will* of an individual which determines his amenability.

The brethren in Maine are still blessed in having W. Bro. Cyril Pearl to prepare the report on Foreign Correspondence. They *ought* to be well posted in the good things and the general condition of the Order. We quote a few of the concluding remarks:

"At no period since the revival of Masonry at the beginning of the eighteenth century, has our noble Order exhibited such elements of wisdom, strength and beauty as at the present time, or such promise of per-



manency and a glorious future—such moral power and philosophic research—such beautiful adornment of intellectual and moral growth. These may well inspire us with profound gratitude and abundant thanksgiving to God the infinite giver from whose bountiful hand all mercies flow. Let us, for a moment, contrast the present condition of Masonry with the period of decline which marked the beginning of the present century. The Craft then could recall the scenes that tried men's souls—when the energies of this young nation had been marshaled against the invading armies of the mother country, by a band of brothers, every one of whom had been raised to the sublime Degree of a Master Mason, in [ ] which held their charters from the Grand [ ] of England. If called from labor to refreshment, they could drink the health of General Officers, brothers of the mystic tie, who had won the liberties of a nation, or had bravely perished in the attempt. The names of WASHINGTON, WARREN, LAFAYETTE, and a host of others, were familiar as household words, and might well excite a glow of enthusiasm. That was the era of pleasant suppers, the flowing cup, the harmony of song, and—shall we say it—the prelude to that period of sensual enjoyment, when miserable puns and low witticisms could too often satisfy the Craft and leave little time or taste for abstruse inquiries into the philosophy, the history, or the grand mysteries of our art. There never was a time when Freemasonry was not both a science and an art, with mysteries which could amply reward earnest inquiries—but there have been periods of decline, in which its beauty has been tarnished, when its wisdom became obscure and its strength decayed. Such a period swept over this country, even in its young life, when its temples were desecrated, its altars defiled, and a spurious worship usurped the place of a pure faith, hope and charity. It was in that day of delusion that the powers of darkness triumphed and lead princes and people into a mournful captivity, to lament the folly which had made such ruin possible. No wonder that Masonic harps were tuneless, and her pleasant songs unsung, as the princes of the captivity in mournful sadness viewed the wreck of Pillar and Pilaster, of Capital and Architrave—the Royal Arch demolished, and the Keystone lost among the ruins. The violence of faction and fanaticism was but one of the dark shadows which obscured the clearest visions that then looked despairingly to the East with the doubting inquiry, whether the sun of Freemasonry would ever rise again.

"How glorious, then, to the waiting eyes of our Kings, Greenleaves, Foxs, Smiths, Swans and Millers, was the dawning light of these latter days, which led them to say with Simeon of old, 'Now lettest thou thy servants to depart in peace.' Brethren, it was in the dawning of this light that they closed their eyes as they gave us the parting hand and left our active convocations to join the silent [ ] preparatory to a better meeting in the Grand [ ] above. Their working tools they left in our hands, and it is yet but the third hour of the day—let us see to it that the evening shadows do not steal upon us at high twelve. The advancing light only gives us clearer views of the great work to be done for God and for humanity. Let us work like men as the day advances, assured that the Grand Overseer will amply reward and crown our labors with success. We have not yet exhausted the light which glows in the sacred page that lies open evermore upon our altars."

We cannot close our review of Maine without noticing the report of D.·. D.·. G.·. M.·. Wm. P. Preble. He, upon being applied to for a Dispensation, allowing a ballot on a petition at a special meeting, refused it, although the applicant was a son of the R.·. W.·. Grand Secretary, who wished very much to be initiated upon the night of his twenty-first birth-day. "Having ascertained," says W.·. Bro. Preble, "that the young man had no idea of leaving town, and that it was merely for the purpose to gratify his feelings

and those of his father and friends, and was in no degree a case of emergency, although I should have been pleased to have gratified the young man and especially his worthy father, I did not feel that it was a proper case for a Dispensation, or that I could with any consistency refuse any application if I granted this one." Who says the Romans are all dead! We commend to our brethren of a jurisdiction adjoining Maine, the above instance of firmness as well as the following instance of good sense in the case, as Bro. Preble says :

"Of a young man who, having always lived in the town where he was born, and where he made application, made up his mind to seek his fortune in California ; and although he had always lived in the neighborhood of a ☐, only began to appreciate the beauties of Masonry on the eve of his departure. It was too evident to my mind, that his desire to become a Mason was not based on any favorable opinion he had 'long entertained' of the Institution, but rather that he might have the Fraternity to fall back upon. I accordingly refused the application."

One extract more. It is short, but important and in good time for us :

"It has got to be quite a common practice with some Masons, whenever a brother dies, for some one or more of the brethren to busy themselves to find out if the deceased brother did not express a wish to be buried with Masonic services, or if his friends do not wish to have him so buried. They have even gone so far in their anxiety to have our ceremonies performed, as to write notes to the relatives of the deceased brother, and to call at his late residence and ask the question. I have instructed them that although every brother in good standing, has the right after his decease, to be buried with Masonic honors, still it is only done at his request, or by wish of his family, and that some one of the Fraternity will be sure to be notified, if such is the wish ; and that it is very bad taste, were it not also contrary to the principles of Masonry, to be thrusting ourselves unasked upon the notice of the mourning friends of a departed brother."

#### MARYLAND.

This Grand ☐ holds an Annual Communication in November, and a Semi-Annual one in May. Proceedings of both Communications are before us. That of November, 1858, gives no address, and nothing of general interest, except the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and the passage of resolutions which, with their preamble, are worthy of presentation and notice. We give the preamble and main resolution :

"Whereas, Amidst the desolations of nations, kingdoms, and empires, it has pleased the dispenser of all good, and the disposer of all events, to preserve and perpetuate our ancient and honorable Order ; and

"Whereas, It is our duty at all times, as Christians and Masons, to render unto Him the homage due to His holy name, yet there are occasions when a public declaration of these, our sentiments, are in accordance with ancient usage to render Him thanks for His great benefits, and to show forth His most worthy praise ; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That when this Grand ☐ adjourns, it stand adjourned to meet again on Monday the 27th day of December next, the anniversary of St. John the Evangelist, and that the day be set apart for public Ma-

sonic praise and thanksgiving; that an oration be delivered, and a sermon preached adapted to the occasion."

Two hundred dollars were appropriated to defray the expenses.

The address of the Grand Master at the May Communication, 1859, is short and confined to local matters. From it we learn that the festival intended for St. John's day, did not take place, the committee on preparations finding the time too short to arrange for it. The Grand Master alludes to the increase in initiations during the previous six months, and warns the brethren that "without the exercise of more rigid regard to their qualifications, the time is not distant when our ancient Landmarks will be unobserved, and the whole character of our Institution be changed."

The report of the Committee of Foreign Correspondence at the November Communication reviews the Proceedings of fourteen Grand [ ] in one hundred and thirty-seven pages. The report at the May Communication in two hundred and forty-nine pages, reviews the Proceedings of sixteen Grand [ ]. So that for the year, the committee, or rather Bro. McJilton for the committee, furnishes to the Grand [ ] the generous amount of three hundred and eighty-six pages of excellent Masonic reading. Bro. McJilton is plain, blunt, and just right upon that too common sin among Masons as well as the world at large—profanity. He says, "It can be indulged in nowhere by the true-hearted Mason. It is an ugly disfigurement of the Masonic character, and ought to be carefully and studiously avoided by the man that is honored with the title. It is no valid excuse that profane words are generally those of thoughtless utterance. Profanity is wickedness, and its taint should never soil the speech of the man that frequents the mystic halls of Masonry." Noticing the new regulations of Indiana, to which we have alluded in previous reports, Bro. McJilton says:

"In regard to the question at issue, it presents itself properly in the character of the Masonic Institution. It is a family. Its bond is a natural one—the bond of affection. The Master of the [ ] occupies the place of the head of the family, the patriarch—the father. The anomaly of the provision of Indiana, appears in the strange and unnatural procedure of a family organizing itself into a court for the trial of its head. The children a jury for the trial of the father! The proceeding is, to say the least, unnatural."

Noticing a resolution passed by the Grand [ ] of Rhode Island, directing the Grand Lecturer to provide a more *modern* seal for the use of that Body, the hope is expressed, that "the *ancient* character of the old seal is not its only objectionable feature," and the following gentle hint is thrown out: "We have always entertained the idea that the Masonic character of the ancient Athenians (if they had any,) was imperfect and insufficient in consequence of their continual inquiry and desire to hear and to witness some new thing."

We do not think, however, that our Rhode Island brethren referred to the *emblems* upon the seal, but simply to the "way the thing worked." Noticing a case where brethren were threatened with excommunication from the church unless they withdrew from the □, Bro. McJilton says:

"It is well remembered in this good city of ours, that about twenty-five years ago, a score of brethren were threatened in the same way. Some became alarmed and refused to run the gauntlet, they bolted accordingly. Others stood their ground and boldly declared that they were ready for the blow which the arm of authority was upraised to give. Their defiance cooled the ardor of ecclesiastical wrath, and the blow was never struck. The church officials were soon made aware of the fact that their membership was not, in the slightest degree, hurt by its Masonic association, and some of them thought they would like to have the experiment tried upon themselves. They were introduced into the Masonic family, in which they still reside, and are satisfied with the companionship it affords."

We have read nothing upon the subject of affiliation better or more pointedly or beautifully said, than the following:

"In regard to the right of a Mason to withdraw from his □, for the purpose of non-affiliation, a word or two may be said. In a civil point of view, the man has the right. But Masonically the Mason has it not. Masonry expects and demands every brother should remain in affiliation with her. She never contemplated that one of her sons should leave her family, and become a wanderer in the world without. She bound him to affiliation at the altar in solemn and sacred ceremonies. She bound him to affiliation in the exhibition of her symbols, and in the presentation of the landmarks. The faithfully affiliated brother in the estimation of Masonry is gentle, the amiable Abel, in the bosom of his affectionate family, the obedient child, the faithful parent, the meek worshipper of God. The non-affiliated wanderer in the estimation of Masonry, is the fugitive Cain, the disobedient subject of an alienating spirit, who denies himself the blessings of his household, and takes the path of the wanderer upon the wilderness, untrodden by the feet of the true and faithful craftsman. It is clear enough, that Masonry gives no man the right to withdraw from her communion. She cannot do such a deed consistently. The most she can do in supposed emergent cases, which she cannot control, is to consent quietly to the wrong, and wish the brother well in his wanderings and speedy return to her embrace. But while Masonry gives no man the right to withdraw from her communion, she holds no power, she assumes no right to resist the civil law. On the contrary, she obliges her sons to respect and obey the civil law, even to their own hurt.

"A distinction must of necessity be made between the rights of the Mason as they are considered and conferred, by the Masonic Institution, and the rights of the man as they are conceded and protected by the civil law. The Institution has the right to protect itself, and to preserve its laws and regulations inviolate so far as the attempt at such preservation does not invade the province of the civil law. But the moment the civil law appears in the way of her administration of discipline, she retires from the arena, and in the quiet of her mystic chamber, where the blessed spirit of charity is always present, she silently submits to the wrong. In her service for the Installation of her officers, Masonry sets forth the duties of the citizen, and the distinction is exhibited between the Mason and the civilian, and not more positive is the requisition that the Master and other officers of the □ should obey the rules, &c., of the Order, than it is that they should be good and quiet citizens, and render implicit obedience to the civil law."

The Proceedings from Minnesota receive a good share of attention from Bro. McJilton. The addresses of our G.: M.: at the

January and October Communications of last year, are largely quoted, and the history of and substitute for a General Grand □, are given at length. Our Grand Master and this Grand □, are spoken of in high terms, which remark paves the way for a quotation we feel entirely unauthorized to keep back. Bro. McJilton copies the opening sentences of M. W. Bro. Pierson's address, and also the Grand Secretary's note, that at the right moment the Grand □ was called up, and the Throne of Grace addressed, and then soliloquizes as follows: "Such was the impression made upon our mind and feelings when we met Grand Master Pierson, and had the honor of introducing him to the Grand □ of Maryland, at the May Communication of 1858, that we fancy that we can realize the solemn manner in which he called his Grand □ up for prayer, while in the process of delivering his Annual address. We have no doubt of its effect upon the Grand □."

Our good brother still lingers about that "clam chowder," and he finds our willing spirit there to join him every time. He says:

"We know very well that our brother loves the observance of the *old customs*, and if we had him here, we would feed him, for a while, on our 'Baltimore Cove Oysters,' of which he appears to have some knowledge. If he can smack his lips over an *idea*, and become absolutely *active* on a savory remembrance, we should like to see him involved in the deep reality, and doing ample justice to the chowder and the oysters."

We wish you could, and *we* would like nothing better than at that moment, "to see ourself as others see us."

We were misunderstood in our inquiry whether or not Grand Master Rockwell's definition of "*acted as Warden*," was assented to. If our brother will read the address of M. W. Bro. Rockwell, for 1857, and the comments in our report for October last, he will understand what we meant. That matter of the separate ballot upon each Degree, is argued again with much zeal. We cannot find words to make our own position any clearer than it has been already made by our remarks and quotations from others. Our assertion that "there are no □ of E. A.; no F. C. □ now," *should* be understood without this explanation—that we referred to the fact of Master's □ only being chartered, and that while these chartered □ do open, and confer Degrees, and sometimes, but far too seldom, lecture in the first and second Degrees, yet no Apprentice □ are held by themselves, nor is any business beyond what we have above specified, transacted in them. It is a *Master's* □ that ballots upon the applicant's request in the first instance, and all the way through the *Master's* □ decides his fate. Bro. McJilton says: "Will our brother be kind enough to answer the question—Is the candidate for the Degrees of Masonry, when balloted for the first time, elected a Master Mason? If he answers

it to our satisfaction, we will promise him a supper of what he terms Cove Oysters, the first time he comes along this way." In the particular ☐ of which we are a member, the candidate is, upon the first and only ballot, elected—not a Master Mason, for a Mason is *made*, not elected,—to receive the three Degrees; and he *does* receive them in proper succession unless objection to his advancement is preferred. As a matter of *fact*, the ☐ has never suffered injury by the working of this plan, while, as another matter of *fact*, other ☐ by allowing a secret ballot upon the question of advancement, have found themselves plunged into a sea of trouble. After this explanation, for the sake of the oysters, we categorically answer our brother, *No*, and shall call for the supper as per agreement.

One more explanation; it is due to our brother, who says:

"What does our brother mean by *Humph*? We say in our report that the Committee on Correspondence of Minnesota, 'acknowledge the receipt of the Proceedings of the G. . ☐ of Maryland, at the May Communication of 1857, and make an extract from the address of the G. . M. ., thus endorsing his views, that it were better for Masonry to decrease in numbers, than to have her ranks filled with men of vicious or even doubtful character.' In reply to this our brother says 'Humph! We do not endorse everything we quote without comment.' Humph! say we, you do not! And you do not endorse the sentiment that Masonry had better decrease in numbers than to have bad men introduced into her temple. You made the fling, brother, and you must excuse us for flinging it back. We hope it hits, and when you refuse to endorse a sentiment it shall be at least a shade below that of our late Grand Master. You know very well that you would reduce your numbers in Minnesota, rather than have your character reduced; and you know as well that you had rather keep out the vicious than to expel them. Own up now, and speak right out."

Now do sit down, our very good and much beloved brother, and let us talk this over a bit. We do love you for your noble zeal, which so takes fire at the least appearance of evil; and, therefore, we make a clean breast, as follows: In your review of our Proceedings of January, 1858, made at your May Communication following, (and you again review the same Proceedings in November,) you noticed three matters in our report of forty pages on Correspondence. To two of our positions you expressed a decided dissent. That was all right. Upon one point you worsted us—for the other we still dare to do battle. If your notice had contained nothing more, our reputation for amiability would not have been put in such jeopardy. But in the whole forty pages which we with some toil and much anxiety, and many fears, had prepared, you only find for approval the *supposition* that we endorse a legitimate deduction from the very groundwork of our Order, if not indeed a *land-mark* itself; which supposition is raised by the fact that we quote a passage without comment!

Now it is a fact, as was stated in another place in that very report, that we do not endorse everything we quote without comment; and



when you gave us the credit of putting our approval to such an elementary truism, *because* we refrained from expressing dissent, we undertook to contemptuously and scornfully fling aside the unwarranted compliment you were paying us. That is all, brother. Our *vanity* was hurt, and we hope our confession is equal to our fault.

[The chairman here paused in the reading of his report, and begged pardon of the Grand ☐ for former expressions of personal irritation which compelled him to now ask them to print his apology. G. . . S. .]

#### MICHIGAN.

The Grand Master, in his address, gives some of his decisions made during the year, among which are the following: A ☐ can expel a non-affiliated Mason; a dispensation can not be granted by the Grand Master for election of a Junior Warden to fill a vacancy while the Master and Senior Warden remain; and a ballot can be had at a Special Communication for second and third Degrees, after a candidate is elected and initiated as a regular. Six dispensations for new ☐ and one to confer Degrees, were granted. The Grand Lecturer reports having visited over fifty-one ☐, scattered over twenty-one counties, and that he observed a steady and progressive improvement in the work of the ☐, and a gradual approximation to unity of action in all departments of the Craft. The G. . . S. ., R. . . W. . Brother James Fenton, presented the report on Foreign Correspondence. We have noticed elsewhere Brother Fenton's remark upon our Grand Master's statement that a uniformity of words under all circumstances in the work of a ☐, was not desirable.

#### MISSISSIPPI.

A volume of three hundred and four pages, but fortunately for the reviewer, only eighty are used to record the Proceedings of the G. . . ☐. With his full returns, and tables of all sorts, Bro. Daniel gets up an imposing book. The Grand Master salutes the brethren as follows:

"It is no heartless or unmeaning congratulation which I address to you around our Masonic altar. The trouble, discord and faction that so often and so fiercely prevail in and between the various associations of the day, enter not the portals guarded by our Tyler's sword. The bickerings, the jealousies, the strifes for place and power, the spirit of aggrandizement, the thoughts of self, the contests of sections and of parties, that degrade politics from a science to legerdemain—which pervade society, embitter friendships, and occasionally even desecrate the sanctuary, have cast no shadow within our ☐.

He notices the death of P. . . G. . . M. . . Cannon, and pays an eloquent tribute to his worth; also the death of the G. . . S. . . Warden, W. R. Lackey, who was killed on the steamer Pennsylvania.

Of Brother Lackey he says: "Probably no Mason in the State was personally known more widely by his brethren. Versed in all the

ritual of the Order, from Entered Apprentice to Royal Arch and Council, his majestic form, and open, honest countenance were familiar in every portion of the State." The death of P. G. M. John A. Quitman, is also mourned. After briefly noticing the career of this distinguished brother, the Grand Master alludes to his Masonic history, as having been initiated in or prior to 1823, chosen as Grand Junior Warden the year following, and presiding over the Craft in Mississippi, for fifteen years.

The Grand ☐ is congratulated in the prospect of soon being out of debt again, it having been for years back, unable to put forth the first effort to comply with one of its constitutional duties—the relief of distressed brethren. Attention is called to the evil—a glaring one, both in the Grand and Subordinate ☐—of installing officers by proxy. Grand Master Cothran says the proxy cannot promise for another—that the duty, the obligation, the trust, and the responsibility are all personal; and that the true plan is never to install except the person to be installed is present.

An amendment to the Constitution having been proposed at a previous Communication, a committee of five was appointed to examine the same. It involves the standing with regard to membership of those who have been suspended or expelled by a Subordinate ☐, but whose sentence has been reversed in Grand ☐. Does the reversal of the sentence restore the membership in the particular ☐? The majority of the committee in a very lengthy and able report, M. W. Bro. Hillyer being chairman, argues the affirmative. The minority report is also long and able. After going through both of them with much care, your committee feel fully prepared to announce their opinion as follows: *Quere!*

#### MISSOURI.

Thirty-ninth Annual Communication. After noticing a few local matters, the Grand Master takes up in his address the subject of non-affiliation, and recommends that the "Grand ☐ place the non-affiliated Mason under the ban of suspension as a 'drone,'" saying further:

"Let the Grand ☐ rescind the resolution of 1849, in regard to dimits, and allow every Mason to dimit who thinks proper, (as we wish none to worship at our altars but by their own free will and accord,) but with the understanding that the moment he severs his connection with his ☐, our obligations are suspended with him, and I think non-affiliation will be rare indeed in this jurisdiction."

In regard to the college, he declares that the question to be decided is, "whether the Grand ☐ will in good faith carry out its solemn and oft repeated obligations, or repudiate them?" M. W. Bro. Saunders has labored most zealously in this matter, and he

says: "This question of sustaining or repudiating the college, does not affect our standing alone, in this jurisdiction, but also in that of our sister Grand [ ];" but his efforts were unavailing, for we find that the Grand [ ] subsequently passed the following resolution by a vote of [ ]. Ayes 37, noes 27. And an individual vote, 40 ayes to 34 noes:

"Whereas, After many years experience, it has become a fixed fact that the 'Masonic College has failed to meet the reasonable and just expectation of this Grand [ ], and of its warmest and most ardent friends, and thereby rendering it in no wise necessary for the Grand [ ] to put forth any further efforts for its sustenance.

"And whereas, The Subordinate [ ] of this State are having their treasures continually drained for its support, thereby in a very great measure cutting off their resources for dispensing their own charities:

"Therefore, *Be it Resolved*, That at the close of the present collegiate year, the college be closed *sine die*, and that no more of the funds of this Grand [ ] be appropriated for its sustenance further than to meet its present liabilities."

Whatever regret may be felt, either in or out of that jurisdiction, at this abandonment of a benevolent effort upon which so much care and money have been expended, the Grand [ ] and the Craft of Missouri, are too well known to be accused of any parsimony or any want of interest in philanthropic enterprise. We find the Grand [ ], at this same session, donated fifty dollars to the widow of a deceased brother, to assist her in paying for a lot on which her dwelling stands; that a worthy brother added five dollars to the donation; that money was liberally voted to aid embarrassed Subordinates; that two hundred dollars were denoted to the Masonic Board of Relief, of St. Louis, for the purpose of "relieving the wants of transient brethren, their widows and orphans;" that thirty dollars were voted to Potosi [ ], No. 131, toward the support of the widow of a brother whom that [ ] had supported a number of years, and had at his death buried; that the Grand Secretary's salary was increased to \$1,000, and \$200 was voted to the Grand Tyler.

We regret that one of the District Deputies found occasion to report, that in his visits he "found many things to deplore, such as intemperance, gambling, and profane swearing among some of the members of [ ];" but we more deeply regret the conviction, that were the whole truth told, such laments would come from very many in other jurisdictions, whose duties led them a tour among the Subordinates. Would that something could be done to purify our Order of these too common sins. We very cordially endorse, to the full extent, the declaration of another District Deputy, that "when it shall be known and acceded that a man to be a Mason is equivalent to his being an honest, upright man, and a true gentleman, then it will be that our beloved Order will take her proper sphere in the

world, and all the efforts of our enemies to destroy our good name or blight our influence, will fall as dead and fruitless as a 'cannonade of rosebuds against the rocks of Gibraltar.' "

Grand Secretary O'Sullivan offered his report to the Grand □, which took the liberty to order, that all that portion of it in which he declines a re-election, be stricken out!

Brother O'Sullivan again gives to his brethren an excellent report on Foreign Correspondence. Of our King Solomon, he says:

"With such a Grand Master—intelligent, gentlemanly and enthusiastic, is it any wonder that Masonry in Minnesota should command the respect and admiration of all right thinking men, that harmony and brotherly love prevail to a great extent among the brethren?" Noticing that the committees are engaged in discussing various questions, he expresses himself in this wise:

"As we of this jurisdiction are not at the present time *exercised* upon any of these topics, it is not desirable to discuss them. We will simply add, however, that it is not by resolutions or professions we can demonstrate the sincerity of our belief in the *great light*, but only by the practice of those great lessons of duty which are contained in it. If in our intercourse with our fellow men, we were influenced by the principles of honor and honesty, rendering to all men their just dues—if we cultivated the social and domestic affections to their fullest extent—if we avoided all uncharitableness and evil speaking, and maintained conscience void of offence toward God and man—if we love Him, and prove the truth of our love by loving our fellow men—if we as Masons do all these things, there would be no need of discussing the divine authenticity of the Bible. But as there have been in all ages of the world, loud professors and indifferent practicers, so is it with the Masonic Fraternity at the present time, and so will it continue to be as long as hypocrisy is allowed to cloak itself in the garb of professions to serve the devil in."

#### NEBRASKA.

The Proceedings of the second Annual Communication of this Grand Body make a pamphlet of 64 pages. Delegates from six □ were in attendance, being a "full representation." Grand Master Jordan says in his address:

"You are all aware, no doubt, we have had no increase in the number of □ during the past year. To some of our sister Grand □, which have been chartering from twenty to thirty at each session for a few years past, this would appear, perhaps, very slow work, if not a retrograde movement, among the Fraternity in Nebraska; but I am happy to say, brethren, for the information of all who may feel an interest in our welfare, that our march has been steadily onward. I have been advised from time to time, that the six □ which compose our little family, have held their meetings regularly and have increased gradually in strength, conferring the Degrees upon good men and true, and not hesitating to reject material presented for inspection when it was thought it could not be formed into good square work."

Indiana is brought to the bar by our Nebraska brethren, and sentenced as follows:

"Resolved, That the new regulation of the Grand □ of Indiana, empowering a Subordinate □ to arraign and punish a Master or Grand

Master, is an unprecedented 'innovation upon the body of Masonry,' and an unwarranted encroachment upon the ancient prerogative of those officers."

A system of work was adopted and authority given to enforce it in the Subordinates. The Grand Orator, Brother A. G. Clarke, delivered an address, and the Committee on Foreign Correspondence made a report thirty-two pages in length. We regret very much that our Proceedings do not seem to have been received by the committee, for we have thus missed what we trust would have been a fraternal greeting from our young but fair and talented sister.

### NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The Grand Master acknowledges the debt of grateful thanks to the Grand Master above, that no member of that Grand ☐ during the year has been called from his labor on earth, to the "undiscovered country." Pursuant to a resolution of the Grand ☐ directing the employment of a Grand Lecturer, to visit all the ☐, he had appointed R. W. Brother Thos. Snow, to that office, and makes a report of his doings, but says, "it is a great labor and arduous duty for one individual to visit all the scattered ☐ of New Hampshire, now numbering forty-two ☐. scattered over the prairies of Iowa! In noticing a visit to a ☐ at Plymouth, G. M. Paul relates the following interesting fact:

"An incident occurred here which may probably never occur again in any ☐, and it is not only worth relating, but should be entered upon the printed journal. It is this: The united ages of six of the officers of this ☐—83, 81, 72, 71, 64 and 59—being 430 years, average 71½ years, yet all are apparently as much interested in Masonry as they could have been in their younger days. Such are the pillars which sustained our Order in the time when it required great moral courage to do so. They are pleasant to behold."

It appears from the reports of the Grand Master and the several Deputies, that our New Hampshire brethren still find the old way of making Masons unsuited to their circumstances. We would respectfully suggest that the Grand ☐ make provision whereby men may be balloted for, initiated, passed and raised at once, without the trouble of applying for a dispensation; and also, that in cases of *unusual* haste, the *ceremonies* of the Degree be omitted. One Deputy says he authorized St. John's ☐, No. 1, to ballot for, and if accepted, to make, pass and raise a candidate residing out of Portsmouth. Another granted a dispensation "to enter, pass, and raise a *gentleman* who was about to leave for the west." And so they go. Still another Deputy makes the following enigmatical report: "I have during this year granted eight dispensations. In granting these, I was actuated more from confidence in their Master and youth

of the □, than my belief in the benefit that they conferred." And yet that brother was appointed District Deputy! The Grand □ resolved in imitation of the plan pursued in Massachusetts, to hold a Special Communication on the Festival of St. John the Evangelist in each year, for the purpose of exemplifying the Work and Lectures, at which each Subordinate must have at least one Representative, at its own expense. M. W. Bro. Geo. H. Hubbard, P. G. M., presented his credentials as Representative of the Grand □ of Minnesota, was duly received, and thereupon "tendered to the Grand □ of New Hampshire the friendly salutations and Masonic greetings of the Grand □ of Minnesota, in a neat and appropriate address, and respectfully asked an interchange of Representatives on the part of this Grand □. The Grand Master subsequently appointed our Worshipful Bro. Oren T. Hayes of Hastings, such Representative.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence say that it has been their aim to give a general review rather than to advance any peculiar ideas or opinions of their own. They give sixty-one pages, mostly quotations—an interesting document to read, but of course giving nothing new for us to copy or chat about. The plan proposed by our G. M. for a Masonic Congress, is given at length, but no opinion is hazarded. The Grand □ did, however, authorize such members of that body as should be at Chicago, to act as delegates.

#### NEW JERSEY.

In the list of visitors present at the opening of this Communication, we find the name of our Grand Master.




Grand Master Trimble congratulates the Grand □ upon the success which has resulted from the appointment of a Grand Lecturer, saying, that the means "taken to provide for the instruction of the Craft has had a marked and happy influence in promoting the prosperity of the Order." He reports granting eight dispensations to enter, pass and raise, and two to pass and raise.

The Grand Master acknowledges that the "prosperity of a □ is not to be estimated merely by the number of Masons it may make, by the value of its treasures, or the work that is done; but it is to be measured by the sterling truth of its members, and their proficiency, not only in *Masonic work*, but in a thorough and complete knowledge and continued practice of the great lessons in morality, of brotherly love, kindness and charity, uprightness of conduct, prudence and trustworthiness, which are taught in all our ceremonies and lectures."



We alluded last year to the dispensations granted to hasten work, in reply to which, Bro. Hough, in his report on Foreign Correspondence, says :

"We would state, for the information of our brother, that we have never turned from the beaten track marked out by that able and talented brother who was our first Grand Master—we allude to the M. W. David Brearley, then Chief Justice of this State, and who was justly admired for his talents, both Masonic and professional. Seventy-two years have now elapsed since that prerogative has been used in this State, and we now deem it an 'Ancient Landmark' that our fathers have set to be intrusted to a prudent officer. Any departure to the contrary we must style 'modern,' and an innovation. As to the cause, we deem it entirely out of place to report every *minutia* as to the why and wherefore, in the exercise of that right, but it should be presumed that it was prudent and discreet."

Three Dispensations for new  were granted. The attention of Subordinates is particularly called, by the Grand Master, to the great importance of care in the selection of a Master, as "no member of a  exerts so great an influence upon its character and well being" as he. The committee appointed to consider the proposition of Maine for a General Grand , made a lengthy report, winding up with a resolution declining to appoint delegates. The resolution was adopted. The Committee on the History of Masonry in the State, made an interesting report. "Four generations," says the report, "have passed away since David Cox was appointed to preside over the interests of Masonry in this State, and another is fast following to the silent tomb. Each has taken with it much that it is important we should know, and that we can never hope to regain." \* \* \* "It ill becomes us to boast of the antiquity of the Institution, if we neglect to preserve the records which connect us with those to whom we are taught to look as the source of all our Masonic principles and advantages."

#### NEW YORK.

Upon the seventy-fifth Annual Communication of this Grand Body, Grand Master Lewis opened the business of the session with an address, commencing with the following beautiful passage :

"As the traveler, pursuing a distant journey, pauses by the way, toil-worn and weary, to look back upon the landscape and to gather strength for a renewal of his efforts, and contemplates the hills and valleys he has traversed, the pleasures he has enjoyed, and the dangers he has escaped ; so do we, in the early summer, suspend our life-long labors for a brief space, and halt in our progress towards the final rest, to see what we have achieved, and to consider what remains to be accomplished. The retrospect cheers or pains us, as a calm reflection upon our own conduct shall convince us whether we have striven to perform well and wisely, in our respective stations, what was given us to do, or whether in the passionate struggle to claim or maintain real or imaginary *rights*, we have not left undone the actual *duties* incumbent upon us. It is in this hot and eager contest, in respect to rights demanded, or rights invaded, that many a bright hope, many a noble design, has been shipwrecked forever, upon the sharp and jagged rocks of prejudice and passion, while pilot, and helmsman, and

crew, forsaking the post of duty, were contending for their own individual claims. It is the most melancholy picture in the history of our race, and yet is being reproduced day by day and year by year."

The Craft are then congratulated on having presented during the preceding year the happy reverse of such scenes. The extent of the Masonic jurisdiction of New York, is brought vividly before our minds by the remark, that "The sound of the gavel is not silent on a single evening, (save that of the day of rest,) throughout the year, and the lights around and upon our altars have not ceased nightly to cast their glow upon many faces, and to diffuse their radiance into honest hearts." It is indeed a pleasant reflection, and one to which doubtless, many a heart in that Grand ☐ responded with hastened beatings, that over twenty-six thousand of the free and accepted Brotherhood point to the broad seal of that Masonic Head, as their authority, and pursue under its protecting sanction, their work of benevolence and love. The Grand Master says of the proposition suggested by the Grand ☐ of Minnesota, for a Masonic Congress—"Its features strike me very favorably; and as other Grand ☐ have concurred in it, I would recommend that the powers of the delegates [already appointed,] be so extended as to be accredited to it, leaving their action as before, open to the exercise of a sound discretion. I have no hesitation in declaring that the advantages to the Fraternity, of national associations, national communion, and national consultation, far outweigh all the objections that have been argued against the existence of such bodies." The power of granting Dispensations is pronounced second to none in difficulty of proper exercise—brethren applying for a new ☐ "eagerly answering the inquiry whether a ☐ can be established at a given point, they do not ask the further and more serious questions: Can it be maintained?" Population is very properly pronounced an unsafe criterion by which to judge, not every populous town possessing the Masonic quarries of Zaredatha. A stringent Grand ☐ regulation is recommended, which shall require, "in addition to the constitutional recommendation, the consent of all the ☐ whose territorial jurisdiction is to be affected by the establishment of the new  U. : D. : shall show a freedom from indebtedness before receiving a warrant." Speaking of the ceremony of laying the corner stone for the People's College, in Havana, Schuyler County, the Grand Master says: "The pageant was of brief continuance, but deep in the massive granite, more imperishable than human affections or human memories, lies imbedded the memorial of the fact, that the Masonic Fraternity had an humble part in the

construction of an edifice devoted to the great cause of population, a cause in which they have had a deep and abiding interest." The Grand  $\square$  was also called upon to lay the corner-stone of the State Inebriate Asylum, at Binghampton, and the State Arsenal at Brooklyn. The Hall of Justice, the Public Monument, and the Military Arsenal had been thus commenced in previous years. When ages shall have rolled away, and the temples, towers and other buildings of man's device have crumbled and fallen before the ceaseless gnawing of the tooth of time, how plenteous amid the ruins will be the memorials of the handiwork of our glorious Order! and as workmen among the rubbish shall strike their mattocks deep to the old foundation stone, how often will their researches disclose objects of value to the Craft, mementoes of its Work in earlier years! The following gem is from the closing remarks of the eloquent Grand Master:

"Such is the lengthened outlines of our transactions during the past year. It will at once be seen, that although it has been a year of peace, it has not been a year of repose. In the whirl and bustle of modern times, and the weird dance of modern progress, it is well if we can keep sight of the Landmarks. At times the billowy tide of reform has threatened to submerge them; and those who have endeavored to steer by aid of them, have been scouted at as dreamers by those who have swept along to the music of the steam whistle. The paler but steady light of an old truth, is preferable to the more showy but uncertain brilliancy of the *ignis fatuus*.

"But there is a steady, onward march, which we shall seek to emulate. It neither overtakes the physical powers, nor burdens the intellect beyond its strength. With its measured steps we can keep progress, and feel that our faith is not to be retraced, to gather up the waifs of lost time by the wayside. Modern science has elicited new and dazzling treasures; but none have been so prized as the gleanings in our old world of emblems and allegory. Romance and song have lent their allurements to adorn and brighten our pathway; but while the troubadour sang, the architect labored: the harp of the one lies shattered and broken, while the stately edifice of the other lifts its tall form to brave the sun and wind, as if defying the tooth of time. Kingdoms have been lost and won, nations born, and religious systems have undergone a change (for the *better*, it is hoped and believed,) while our ancient Craft has wrought with the same tools, been guided by the same trestleboard, and pursued its self-same mission through the rolling ages."

The D. G. Master, R. W. John W. Simons, made quite a lengthy and interesting report. There are few writers who more lucidly and simply state a matter than he. Upon the question of balloting upon each of the three Degrees, which Bro. McCilton of Maryland is so strenuous about, as to declare that balloting for the three Degrees at once is an unmasonic procedure, R. W. Bro. Simons says:

"Section 8, subdivision 14, of the Constitution, defines as an Ancient Landmark, 'that a ballot for each Degree, separately, is an undeniable right, when demanded,' and I believe the rule to be of general acceptance; but there appears to be a necessity for explanations as to its true intent and meaning. There is evidently a difference between a ballot for a profane and one for an Apprentice; for the latter having entered the temple, has acquired a stronger title to our consideration than he has before his admission; and, therefore, when a ballot is demanded for the

second or third Degrees, it ought to be understood whether it is for proficiency or absolute rejection. If for the first, the ballot may be renewed as often as it is convenient to examine the progress made by the candidate; and there must naturally arrive a time when there can be no further question as to a sufficient knowledge of the preceding Degree; and this point having been gained, there is an evident injustice in allowing one brother to interpose his *veto* on the just conviction of all others. But suppose the objection to be on some other ground than that of proficiency, a Mason is thus condemned, not only without hearing, but without knowing the charge against him, declared guilty without proof. The presumption is, of course, that no brother would use the contrary ballot without cause; but, unfortunately, our daily experience goes to prove that the facts do not warrant it; or in plainer terms, that the privilege is occasionally used for the gratification of personal ill will. It appears to me, therefore, that in the spirit of fairness, after a fair examination, a majority of the brethren ought to be able to decide the question of proficiency, and that when the objection is for cause, other than proficiency, an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft, ought to be entitled to the benefit of trial, and have an opportunity of disproving, if possible, the charge against him."

From the report of the able and efficient Grand Lecturer, R. W. Bro. Drew, we take the following interesting reminiscence of olden time:

"Fidelity (originally,) No. 309, at Trumansburgh, was constituted on the 24th of June, 1818, and is one of the few that 'never surrendered,' whose members bore their banners through the whirlwind of Anti-Masonry, unscathed and untarnished. Although proscribed as citizens, as mechanics, and as merchants, subjected to the attacks of a mob, while assembled around the mystic altar, they still remained faithful to the high trust reposed in them, until their members became reduced to twelve true 'Sons of Light,' (commonly known, at that time, as the Twelve Apostles,) who continued to meet and pay dues, until about 1849, when the location of the ☐ was changed to Ithaca; but 'the influence of their gatherings in memory was green,' and those twelve true to the instincts of their noble hearts, longed for the erection of the Masonic altar near their own hearth-stones, and with others soon petitioned for the establishment of the present ☐, which now numbers about ninety members, among whom are ten of the (so called) Twelve Apostles. The names of Taylor, Halsey, Strowbridge, Thompson, McLallen, and others, are 'held in high veneration among the Craft at Trumansburgh.' And as the two famous pillars were erected at the entrance of the porch of the Temple, to remind the children of Israel of their deliverance from the hosts of the hostile king, so may they long be spared as unwavering monuments of integrity and fidelity."

We find in the Proceedings a report from a committee appointed in 1857, on Life Insurance. This committee report the fact that such a corporation is "in course of organization, under the auspices of the Most Worshipful Grand ☐ of the State of New York, for the special benefit of the members of the Order, and their families, as well as for the public in general." We do not like the idea at all. Masonic charities ought to be dispensed in a more Masonic and quiet way, and with more simple machinery. Our Order is not intended to be a colossal machine, which shall take charge of and direct all the philanthropic enterprises of the world. To remove our council chamber from the sacred and hallowed ☐ room to a public insurance office, or to have any set of wires reaching from the latter

to be pulled in the former, and *vice versa*, as will more generally happen, will, we are confident, work injuriously. In reading this report, we have been reminded of the remarks of the Grand Master above quoted, and we greatly fear "this billowy tide of reform," which dashes up in so many fantastic shapes. The Grand ☐ was presented with a portrait of the venerable Grand Chaplain, Rev. Salem Town, accompanied by an appropriate letter from the donor, R. W. Julian Allen.

The committee on a "National Masonic Convention," R. W. Bro. Simons, chairman, made a report accompanied by resolutions recommending the plan proposed by our Grand Master. The committee say :

"The defects and objections to be avoided, in the formation of, and the benefits to accrue from a properly constituted national body, and so fully and satisfactorily set forth in the plan of Grand Master Pierson, of Minnesota, to be found in the report of our Committee on Foreign Correspondence, that we beg to call the attention of the Grand ☐ thereto."

The resolutions were adopted. The following record shows that the interests of this Body are in safe hands in New York: "M. W. John L. Lewis, Jr., was introduced and duly accredited as Representative of the Grand ☐ of Minnesota, near this Grand ☐.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, is from the pen of R. W. Bro. Finley M. King. We regret to learn from the Proceedings that he declined a re-appointment upon this committee. The results of his examination of the various Proceedings which came under his review, were of much interest and value, not only to the Masons of New York, but throughout the domains of English literature. A dozen or so of lesser lights might go out, or be put out, without being missed; but the stoppage of Bro. King's pen will be generally felt and lamented.

The following is the R. W. Brother's reply to Bro. Vaux of the Pennsylvania committee, who expressed his fears about the increase of Masonic publications :

"Is the learned and eminent chairman of the Pennsylvania committee aware of the antiquity or present universality of these publications? They have received the encouragement of the Fraternity in England, Ireland and Germany, for near a hundred years past. Their circulation among the Craft in the United States, for about half that time, without apparent injury, and with general advantage to their readers, establishes their value and character for usefulness. A distinguished foreigner who had visited Masonic ☐ in the four quarters of the world—in literally every country of the globe where a Grand ☐ was established—informed the writer of these lines that the Masonic knowledge of the Fraternity of the United States, was superior to that of any country he had visited; and as he could not concede the superiority of the American race over his own countrymen, or even over that country with whose reigning house his sovereign was allied by family ties, he could ascribe this superiority to but two causes: One was the generality with which Masonic publications were circulated, and taken by members of the Craft and their families in this country; and the other was the vast fund of Masonic information

contained in the reports on Foreign Correspondence sent out by our various Grand [ ]. We venture to remark that in proportion to the extent of the circulation of Masonic publications, and in proportion to the fidelity with which Committees on Foreign Correspondence discharge their duties to the Grand [ ], will be the intelligence, usefulness and prosperity of the Fraternity in the United States. The Masonic press and these committees, are sentinels upon the watch-towers of Masonry ; they curb the excesses of hasty legislation ; they expose the dangers of innovation and false improvement ; they criticise and rebuke extravagance ; they shame and confound pedantry and empiricism ; and, above all, they explain and elucidate the principles of Masonry, and remove the prejudices of society against our Institution."

New York and Pennsylvania have been indulging in an extensive correspondence, which Bro. King gives *in extenso* under the following imposing caption :

"Correspondence between the committees on Foreign Correspondence for the Grand [ ] of New York and Pennsylvania, resulting in a restoration of fraternal relations between these Grand [ ] and their constituencies, as indicated in the action of the Grand [ ] of Pennsylvania, and the proclamations of the Grand Masters of the respective States subjoined to the correspondence."

These letters cover over thirty pages of close matter, and we are heartily glad they resulted as indicated in the above title. If our two valiant knights didn't write themselves to the point of death, and so sign a peace from utter exhaustion, then blessed be the accident which knocked over the punctilio around which they circled and fired ! In letter No. 1, Brother King says, the New York difficulties are settled, and asks of Pennsylvania the state of her pulse. In letter No. 2, Brother Vaux expresses his joy at the New York peace, and says the edict of non-intercourse proclaimed by her is "the only remaining barrier to a full and complete restoration of Masonic relations between the two jurisdictions. And yet, those two brethren, notwithstanding, manage to swell the number of letters to eighteen. It did the business, however, and those two great jurisdictions have at last buried the blunderbuss and shaken hands.

Of Minnesota the committee say, after giving the whole of our Grand Master's address relative to a Masonic Congress :

"Among the officers of the Grand [ ] in the United States, there are none who do greater credit to their jurisdictions for fidelity, industry, and zeal, than those of Minnesota. Long may they live to exemplify the great teachings of Masonry."

#### OHIO.

The Grand Master, in his address, reports upon one matter that may possibly be not uninteresting in this jurisdiction. We condense the facts. He was applied to by seventeen brethren for a dispensation for a new [ ] in Portsmouth. It was granted. He afterwards received a remonstrance from the officers and members of the [ ] before existing there, against the establishment of a new [ ]. Thereupon he suspended further Proceedings under the dispensation, and



sent a proxy to investigate the affair, who reported the facts to him. "Being satisfied therefrom," says he, "that there was no necessity for a new ☐ in Portsmouth, and that the only reason for this application and the recommendation thereof, was a desire, on the part of the Fraternity, to try the doubtful experiment of attempting to reconcile discordant elements in the old ☐, by the establishment of another, I, on the 11th day of February, recalled the dispensation issued as aforesaid, and suspended the ☐ from further proceedings under it." The Grand Master was subsequently memorialized by a large number of the Craft in Portsmouth, to remove the suspension, which he declined to do. His action was affirmed by the Grand ☐. So far as the knowledge of your committee extends, brotherly love has never increased, harmony has never been promoted, by the multiplication of ☐. That two brethren at loggerheads in the same ☐ can become good brother Masons by having each a ☐ of his own, has been proved impossible, by invariable experience. That two rival ends of a town can promote the interests of Masonry, by having a ☐ at each end, better than by having one peace altar in the centre, is a dangerous fallacy. The Grand Master says, that "hasty and imperfect work, is the great error of Masons in these latter days." The Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom this matter was referred, made a report, from which we extract the following:

"It is somewhat difficult, by the aid of all the light history reflects on the subject, to decide, precisely, what 'hasty work' is. The Dyonyasian Mysteries, which existed centuries before the Christian era, in Greece and Asia Minor, and which were divided into three Degrees, in many respects resembling Masonry, required the candidate to stand on the first Degree one year before he was admitted to the second Degree; and he was then required to stand on the second Degree two years before he was admitted to the third. This Order existed in Asia Minor at the time of the building of the temple; and as, under the name of Dyonyasian Architects, they had the exclusive right of building temples and theatres, it is an undeniable truth that many of the workmen on the temple were of this Order. With them there were no cases of emergency, but all had to stand the required time of probation.

"In Switzerland, three months must elapse between the conferring the first and second Degrees of Masonry, as well as between the second and third. Whether the time required by the ancient rule was too long, or whether the more modern rule, adopted in Switzerland, is better, may be questioned.

"About the time the difficulty commenced in England between what were called 'Ancient and Modern Masonry,' a new rule was adopted—or perhaps it should be called a rule to abandon all rule, and make Masons as a hunter would make bullets—in batches. As a specimen, it is a well authenticated fact, that Lord Brougham, while a wild, reckless young man, in Switzerland, preferred his petition, was accepted, balloted for, initiated, passed and raised, all on the same evening.

"A brother in Star ☐, No. 187, Subordinate to this Grand ☐, preferred his petition to a ☐ in Canada—while a minor—was initiated on the day he became of age, and was passed, raised and received the first Degree in the Chapter, all within one month.

"Such hasty work has never received, as your committee believe, the sanction of a Grand ☐ in the United States; but in almost all the Sub-

ordinate [□], there is a provision in the By-Laws that, 'in cases of emergency,' a candidate may be hurried through with a rapidity unprovided for by the laws of the Grand [□]. What a case of emergency is, has not been defined, but left to the discretion of the members of each [□]—and that discretion is, of course, as indefinite as 'the length of a string.' In some [□], under the plea of 'emergency,' candidates are balloted for, passed and raised, on the same evening; and the candidate goes away as ignorant as he came.

"Having received nothing beneficial from the [□], the candidate has no desire to return to it, neglects the payment of dues and attendance, considers Masonry a humbug, and takes his place among the non-affiliated, if not among the seceders.

"Such has been the history of thousands. Cheap and hasty, and looking to the quality of what is conferred, we may say worthless Masonry—lightly estimated, because not understood, and cheaply purchased. From the rapidity with which the Degrees are often conferred, the whole becomes a confused jargon, that the candidate is afterwards unable to analyze, assort or locate in proper order. In the confused ideas of the candidates, we find them, on the lower Degrees, carrying up work that belongs to the higher, and the keystone is in the hands of those who have not even learned to make square work."

The Grand [□] adopted the proposition, "that it is not competent for a Warden to resign during his term of office." In one of the reports of the Committee on Grievances, we find that one Wm. Hunter appealed from a sentence of expulsion by Celina [□], No. 241, claiming that at the time of his expulsion he was a Master of a [□] in Minnesota! The sentence of expulsion was affirmed. It was made on the 14th of February, 1856. A resolution was passed "that it was inexpedient for this Grand [□] to aid in the formation of a Universal Masonic Congress."

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence briefly review the Proceedings of other Grand Bodies. Minnesota receives a very fraternal notice.

#### PENNSYLVANIA.

At the Quarterly Grand Communication held in December last, Bro. Henry M. Phillips was elected "Right Worshipful Grand Master"—so the record reads. One hundred and twenty [□] were represented. The published Proceedings are wholly statistical, except that the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is given. This report acknowledges the receipt of a pretty full list of Proceedings, Minnesota among them. They are not reviewed in detail. The committee notice three different subjects—the impropriety of other Grand [□] and committees in publishing so much about Masonry, Canada matters, and New York matters. The correspondence between the chairman of the Pennsylvania and New York committees, is published at length. We have already alluded to it.

The Grand Master was installed by P.: G.: M.: Williamson, on the 27th of December, and delivered an address, which is published.

He announces the granting of "warrants" for sixteen new [ ] during the preceding year; states the whole number of [ ] to be one hundred and sixty-one; and says the Dispensations granted, have been to enter, pass and raise, three; to pass and raise, seven: to raise, eight; to pass the chair, fifty-nine. He speaks highly of the present flourishing state of the Order, and says that "secrecy, obedience and good works are the elements of the Masonic creed, and that its privacy must not be invaded by strangers, nor its domestic concerns discussed without its portals, and Masons must converse with Masons only on Masonic business."

#### RHODE ISLAND.

Proceedings of Quarterly and Annual Communications for the year ending June 24, 1858. The Grand Master in his address at the Quarterly Communication, in May, notices the absence of "two venerated and much loved Masons," whose seats have become vacated and whose lights are extinguished—P.: G.: M.: Geo. W. March and P.: M.: Israel Amsbury.

The Craft are congratulated upon the prosperous condition of Masonry in that jurisdiction, and the note of warning is given to beware of the evil which prosperity always engenders—a rushing to our portals by a crowd of all characters. "Members are here present," says G.: M.: Hutchison, "who saw something like this about forty years ago; and these same members have since passed through trials, persecutions and adversities for the sake of Masonry, such as I pray God may never befall those who come after us. And this, brethren, was all caused by the unworthy being admitted within our sanctuary, and permitted to participate in sacred things. Too much caution cannot be exercised in the admission of members; let every applicant's character be thoroughly canvassed, and admit no one who is not well recommended for intelligence and moral worth. Numbers alone never yet gave strength. Real sterling moral worth only will elevate Masonry, and give it the high standing among men to which it is entitled. Never permit any one to enter our sacred precincts, merely because you know nothing against him—unless applicants have traits of character well known to qualify them for a participation in our privileges, it will add to our strength and happiness to let them remain where they are. A good rule to follow would be to admit no one into the [ ] that we would not be pleased to receive into our families." A pruning process inside the [ ] is also recommended—a lopping off of the corrupt branches, "that the parent stem and healthy branches may not suffer through their unworthiness."

The report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Bro. Thos. A. Doyle. He says that "curiosity" led him to examine the returns of three Western States, in comparison with their own, and he found that "the average number of members to a □ in Iowa, is about twenty-nine, in Illinois and Indiana, it is thirty-six, and in Rhode Island about sixty-nine." He believes that "the doctrine that other than members should vote upon this question, [on petitions of candidates,] or that an E.: A.: or F.: C.: should be allowed to vote upon the initiation of a candidate," is "an innovation upon the body of Masonry." Upon the "new test," Bro. Doyle says:

"If Masons would only be willing to take Masonry as it has come down to them from their fathers; if they would adhere to the old landmarks; if they would only be satisfied with Masonry, simple Masonry, how much better they would be. Had the generations that have preceded us—with the limited number of Masons then existing—been afflicted with the same mania for alterations and improvements in our glorious science, that there seems to be in some of the Grand □ of the present day, so many changes would have been made, so many new features introduced, that Ancient Masonry would have been but a name without meaning."

And Masonry would now be, we will add, "among the things that were."

In the list of evils which are at present afflicting our Order, the brother includes "the frequent changes of officers of □, particularly that of Master." "The cause of this," says he, "in many cases, may be traced directly to the Grand □, which seems to think one year a long term of service as a Grand Master. Thus before he who fills the most responsible post in the □ can have time to learn the simplest of his duties and responsibilities, he must give way to some ambitious aspirant for an honor that belongs only to the most worthy, and should only be conferred upon one fitted to occupy the station with honor to himself and the Fraternity."

The Proceedings contain a page dressed in mourning, "*In Memoriam*." The next Proceedings will contain at least one similar page, for only a week ago your chairman, as Grand Secretary, received official notice of what the swift-winged lightning had previously borne to us—the death of the Grand Secretary, R.: W.: Bro. William C. Barker. Bro. Doyle, Acting Grand Secretary, in making this sorrowful announcement, says of the departed brother:

"At the time of his decease he was Secretary of St. John's □, which office he had held for seventeen years; Secretary of the Chapter for the past fourteen years; Recorder of the Council for eleven years; Commander of the Encampment; Secretary of the Rhode Island Convention of High Priests; Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter for ten years, Grand Secretary of the Grand □ for six years.

"No member of the Fraternity held so many offices, and no one could have passed away whose loss will be more generally mourned.

"During the storm which raged in this State so fiercely against Mason-

ry, he was among the faithful who stood manfully for the right, never faltering in his devotion to the truth.

"As a citizen, he was honored and respected by all.

"As a christian, he was beloved by the church of which he was a member, and his brethren mourn the loss of one to whom they looked for counsel, and in times of trouble, for consolation and sympathy."

It was only last month that your chairman had the pleasure of meeting Brother Barker at Chicago. He was there a zealous laborer for the interests of the Fraternity, and as a member of the General Grand Body, then in session, was respected and beloved—he and his companions little dreaming that even then the messenger of death was on the way to summon him before the Grand Master of all.

#### SOUTH CAROLINA.

This Grand ☐, under the old Constitution, met quarterly, but under the new, or amended Constitution, has only an Annual Communication, held in November. It is a very modest pamphlet before us—only seventy-two pages including returns, tables, blank leaves, and title page, but it has a deal of nourishment in its twelve pages of address and twenty-seven pages from R. W. Brother A. G. Mackey. The Grand Master, in congratulating his brethren upon this first meeting under a Constitution so radically different from their old one, says :

"The representative system in all organizations, such as that of a G. ☐ of Freemasons, is one which best comports with the interests of all who are subject to its control. The proxy system which heretofore prevailed with us, was liable to abuse, was not republican in its tendencies, and was illy adapted to the development of that expression of sentiment and opinion, which in all matters that concern the general good, is so eminently requisite. If experience is to be a guide in determining the comparative advantages of the two systems, and they may be justly termed two different systems, it can not admit of serious question, that the one is attendant with a healthful prosperity, and that the other is fraught with discord."

The following decisions of the Grand Master, relative to a ☐ under dispensation, were concurred in by the Grand ☐ :

"A ☐ under dispensation is not actually a ☐. It is only a quasi ☐—the creature or proxy of the Grand Master—can make no By-Laws—install no officers—not be represented in the Grand ☐ and has no members legally recognizable as such, except the Master and his Wardens named in the dispensation. To the Master and Wardens as the representatives of the Grand Master, that officer in the discharge of his high prerogatives, has entrusted the care of Masonry in that particular Masonic jurisdiction. From these data, or principles, which have ever been considered as sound law in this State, the following conclusions, applicable to the case, result :

"1. A ☐ under dispensation has no Treasurer or Secretary recognized by the law. Such officers may be temporarily appointed by the Master, and usually are, for his own convenience—but he is under no obligations to do so.

"2. The Master is the legal custodian of the funds of a ☐ under dispensation, and the depositary and the keeper of the records. He, alone, is known as such to the Grand Master, and to him alone will the Grand Master look for a faithful account of the funds, and a correct record of the Proceedings.

"8. A ☐ under dispensation, has no right to call upon the Master to give bonds, or to appoint a Treasurer."

The following remarks are worthy of a place among the many beautiful tributes which eloquent tongues have paid to Masonry :

"The unexampled increase of our Order has not been unaccompanied with an augmented interest in its science and literature, and nothing is more pleasing to the erudite Mason than to behold the determination which prevails, to introduce as an essential prerequisite to advancement in the Institution, a familiarity with its learning and antiquities. When it is recognized as an axiom that Masonry is a science, and deserves to number among its devotees those *alone*, who, by mental and moral culture are exemplars of the refinement of the age in which we live—*then, and not till then*, will it be appreciated. Let its pure and lofty principles be inculcated—let its sublime moral thoughts be evolved—let its profound theories be elucidated, and it will need no tongue of eloquence to protect it from the assaults of the deluded. Ignorance of its principles and tenets, misconception of its aims and purposes, perversion of its objects, have heaped upon it calumny. If it is desired that its great mission be fulfilled—that the miasma which falls over it be dissipated—let it be known that it requires a morality to appreciate, and an intellect to comprehend it, and it will stand forth to the world with the virtuous and honorable as its supporters, and the ignorant and unworthy will no longer worship at its shrine."

The black ball is called the "great palladium of our safety," in guarding against "the shoals and quicksands which are so often encountered in the progress of all human institutions."

R. W. Brother Mackey—or, according to the classification of titles in South Carolina, W. Bro. Mackey—says upon the question whether reversal in Grand ☐, of sentence of expulsion in a Subordinate ☐, restores to membership :

"I confess that I look upon the doctrine, that a Grand ☐ can not restore a brother unjustly convicted to membership in his ☐, as a monstrous doctrine, at war with all the principles of reason and justice, and in direct opposition to the whole theory of Masonic appeals. For if, by an appeal to the Grand ☐, I can not obtain ample redress, then where is the advantage of an appeal. I boast, I trust not vaingloriously, that I was the first to attack this too prevalent doctrine ; and although it at first met with the condemnation of all the Committees of Foreign Correspondence of the Union, it is slowly working its way, and already, as will be seen in the course of this report, has been adopted by the Grand ☐ of Kentucky and Missouri. The time, I am sure, is not far distant, when it will be the universally recognized doctrine of the Fraternity."

In regard to the effect of "striking from the roll," Bro. Mackey, in noticing the decision of G. M. Perkins, of Louisiana, remarks as follows :

"This striking of names from ☐ roll, is altogether a modern practice, taking its rise since the modern organization of permanent ☐. In ancient times, ☐ were temporary associations of Masons for special and limited purposes. Originally, as Preston informs us, 'a sufficient number of Masons met together within a certain district, with the consent of the sheriff, or chief magistrate of the place, were empowered to make Masons, and practice the rights of Masonry without warrant of constitution.' Then, of course, there being no permanency of organization, there were no permanent members, and, consequently, no payment of arrears, and no striking from the roll. It was only after 1717, that all these things were introduced, and as ☐ pay some contribution to the Grand ☐ for each of



their members, it is evident, as well as from other palpable reasons, that a member who refuses or neglects to support the general [ ] fund, will become pecuniarily onerous to the [ ]. Still, as I have elsewhere observed, the non-payment of arrears is only a violation of a special voluntary obligation to a particular [ ], and not of any general duty to the Fraternity at large. The punishment, therefore, inflicted, (if it is to be considered at all as a punishment,) should be one affecting the relations of the delinquent with his own [ ], whose By-Laws he has infringed, and not a general one, affecting his relations with the whole Order.

"When, then, his name is stricken from the roll, although even this should not be done without affording him an opportunity of defence, that is, a fair trial, I am ready to agree with Brother Perkins, that it should not affect his standing in the Fraternity, nor debar him from any of the privileges of Masonry, except that of membership in his particular [ ]."

In noticing the Ohio Proceedings, Brother Mackey thus defines the right to ballot:

"The right to ballot is another subject that has occupied the attention of the committee. A few Masonic writers have been lately discussing the question how far the right to ballot should extend; and some of them contend that, as a candidate for initiation becomes, not only a member of the particular [ ] to which he applies, but of the universal Masonic family, every one present at the ballot, whether a member of the [ ] or not, should be permitted to vote on his reception. The committee of Ohio are of this opinion, and advance very excellent arguments in defence of their views. Perhaps it would be better if it were so—if every Mason within sound of the gavel had a right to express his opinion on the admission of the candidate. Inconvenience, it is true, would sometimes result; but, on the whole, the materials of Masonry would, under this safeguard, be better selected. But, unfortunately, the uninterrupted usage of the Craft is against the change, and to make it now would, undoubtedly, be an innovation. The sixth general regulation settles the question, that such voting would be an infringement of a constitutional landmark: 'No man can be entered a brother in any particular [ ], or admitted a member thereof, without the unanimous consent of *all the members* of that [ ] then present.' It is better to let old ways stand—*nolumus leges Anglica mutari*."

A high compliment is paid by Brother Mackey to our M. W. Grand Master. We will not quote it, for if praise from such a brother as Dr. Mackey, of South Carolina, will not make a man vain, he must be a dolt.

#### TEXAS.

In looking over the Proceedings from this "far off" jurisdiction, we were somewhat chagrined at noticing the little attention paid to Minnesota, by the worthy and Right Worshipful Grand Secretary of the Grand [ ] of Texas. Brother Ruthven still carries on his official correspondence with our esteemed predecessor, R. W. Bro. Reynolds, sent to him the Proceedings now before us, and still keeps his name in the list of Grand Secretaries. Minnesota is not alone neglected, however. From the brother's table we learn, with much surprise, that M. W. Brother Geo. C. Whiting is still G. S. in the District of Columbia! O fame!! or, rather, O Brother Ruthven! have we Rip Van Winkle still amongst us?

The Grand Secretary gives a list of the original members of the

Grand ☐, which was constituted in 1837. Of the twenty-eight, six only, among whom is Gen. Houston, now survive. The G. . M. . in his address notices the deaths of P. . G. . M. . S. M. Williams, P. . D. . G. . M. . E. H. Tarrant, and P. . G. . Orator, J. W. Latimer, saying: "Our sages are departing; the founders of our glorious temple fall, one by one, and but few remain; soon, and none will be left to connect us with the past—nothing but their memories, which shall be perpetuated by the faithful who succeed them."

In announcing the granting of fifteen dispensations for new ☐, he assures the Grand ☐ that the power was not incautiously exercised, and that all applications were not granted. Upon the subject of non-affiliating, the Grand Master says: "I believe that so far we have done all within our power to control their action, all that in the true spirit of the Institution we are permitted to do; my object now is, that the influence of our action be so brought to bear upon their minds and hearts as to remind them of their duties, and of the severe penalties incurred by a disregard of them." He recommends the distribution among the non-affiliated, of circulars containing sections of the Constitution of the Grand ☐ relative to them, and remarks:

"I cannot believe that a brother who has been received into this great family, and who, at one time, worked diligently in the quarries, would, with a knowledge of the penalties, disregard our voice of warning, when enlightened upon the subject; what man ever entered our portals, but hoped to leave the rich inheritance to his offspring, the certificate of good standing in his ☐; what Mason but hoped that the last sad rites of the Order would be with him at the grave."

We have no doubt but many non-affiliated might be induced to unite with a ☐ merely by bringing to their attention the unworthy position they occupy. There are others who cannot be so reached, and a mistake was made when *they* were initiated.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence was made by Brother E. H. Cushing. He says at the outset that the main object with the committee, "has been to furnish to the G. . ☐ information of the doings of the Fraternity, and where they have intruded their own opinions relative to the transactions of any of the G. . ☐ under review, they have aimed to do so in Masonic spirit, and keeping always in view the fact that their report is addressed to the Grand ☐ of Texas, and not to the person or bodies whose actions they have commented upon." Your own committee have endeavored ever to be governed by the same design, but have been repeatedly, and it seemed unavoidably led aside to answer and explain personal matters, though never, we hope, in bitterness. Upon the liquor question the following position is taken:

"A brother was expelled by a ☐ in Indiana on the charge of being en-

gaged in the manufacture and sale of whiskey. An appeal was taken, and the Grand ☐ confirmed the expulsion. When our eye first fell upon this action, we thought we had got hold of the wrong book, and that it was the report of some of the temperance orders we were reading. But it seems not. It has always seemed to us that when ☐ attempt to say to their members that they shall not pursue any lawful avocation, they are stepping outside of their bounds, and are entrenching on the reserved rights of the individual. A large portion of the merchants of the south and west deal in liquors; many of them are among the best Masons in the land. Must they be expelled for their business? *That coulter is a great deal too deep.*"

We cannot follow nor agree with our Texas brother in his arraignment of Indiana. Masonry is morality, and many a brother has been expelled from the Order who kept himself strictly within the pale of legal enactment. Our Indiana brethren are the best judges of the morality of making and selling whiskey in that State, and we propose that they exercise their own sound discretion in the matter. In this country, the connection between selling liquor, drinking liquor, and every vice and every misery against which Masons are contending, is so intimate, that we dare not censure any action tending to purify our Order of such a terrible evil.

The Grand ☐ of Texas condemns drunkenness in most unmistakable terms; and when we remember the force of appetite, and the little power some men have to resist entreaty, there seems to us little chance to commend him who uses his life, his talents, and his tongue, "to make drunk come."

We join Bro. Cushing most heartily in deprecating the use of that parallelogram which so defaces the published Proceedings of Iowa. "It is a small thing," says he, "but small things are often more offensive to good taste than their apparent importance would seem to justify." The Proceedings of New York were formerly marred in the same way, but have been purged. Bro. Cushing thinks "there are a great many Masons abroad in the land who want finishing up," and noticing in the Grand Secretary's report of New York, a credit of \$475 for Dispensations to confer Degrees, he rather tartly says: "We do not know what these Dispensations cost in New York, but if they are cheap there in proportion to other departments of Masonic traffic, we are inclined to think that the business is overdone. We can omit no opportunity of recording our reprobation of this practice of putting candidates through the Degrees by the lightning line." The Pennsylvania Committee get noticed as follows:

"We are inclined to think that Bro. Vaux is an 'old fogey.' Now, there are two kinds of old fogies, those who have their eyes open, and those who are blind, and a blind old fogey is quite as apt to be wrong as right. He opposes everything that appears to him new, on general principles, and had Bro. Vaux, whom we are inclined to regard as one of these, lived in the first part of the eighteenth century, and his way of

thinking prevailed, we doubt if even Anderson's Constitutions would have ever seen the light. Certain are we that the publication of Webb's Monitor met the opposition of just such brethren. To say that Moore of Boston, Moore of Cincinnati, Morris, Mackey, Mitchell, King, Parvin, and such like writers for Masonic periodicals, have injured the cause of Masonry, is ridiculous."

A case came before the Committee on Appeals and Grievances, which grew out of expressions used during a political canvass. The committee, in reporting, say they "believe that an elector has the inalienable right freely to discuss the character and qualifications of every aspirant for his vote, and although he has no right to make a licentious use of the privilege, we think that much should be pardoned to the spirit of liberty."

#### VERMONT.

Upon the opening of the Grand ☐, Grand Master Tucker delivered a long address, commencing as follows:

"The religion of Masonry is embraced in faith in God, our Creator and Preserver, and a belief in the soul's immortality. Most fitting and appropriate is it then, that we always, as now, in the presence of each other, and around our consecrated altar, renew our pledge of sincerity in that belief which instructs us that no man should enter upon any great or important business without first invoking the blessing of his God. We have looked on high to Him from whom cometh all help and blessing, and we may go on with the warmest confidence and hope that our Heavenly Father will smile upon our continued efforts in the cause of virtue, morality and benevolence."

He reports in detail, the circumstances which caused the forcible suspension by him of the labors of a ☐, and says that it is the first case within his knowledge occurring in that jurisdiction. Speaking of two public celebrations of St. John the Baptist's day, and of the good effect of such festivals when well conducted, he adds—"But if we degenerate again into placing upon the rostrum men who can only talk vapid ignorance and inflated bombast, who are always for having a ☐ in the garden of Eden, and another floating over the billows of a sunken world in the ark of Noah, just so long will the enlightened portion of mankind laugh at us for such nonsense, and we shall deserve it." The Platt case came up again, and the M. W. Grand Master used his pen in caustic vein. We have no disposition to find fault with anything he has said this time. The Grand Master and the Committee on Correspondence of New York, provoked him to indulge in sharp retort, and he has done it so admirably that Bro. King of the New York committee, after such a dressing down as we wouldn't like to get—unless we deserved it—sings out, "ALL RIGHT, BRO. TUCKER!" We are glad it's "all right," and that the matter drops without debate. Mr. Platt is left to his original seclusion, a Mason in New York, but not recognized as such in Vermont, where he now resides. M. W. Bro. Tucker gives a

long argument in favor of the lectures and work used in Vermont, and thinks he is justified in saying that they use the true lectures of Preston. We make the following extract :

"About the year 1800—twelve years after the publication of Preston's 'Illustrations'—an English brother, whose name I have been unable to obtain, came to Boston, and taught the English Lectures as they had been arranged by Preston. The Grand [ ] of Massachusetts approved them, and they were taught to Thos. S. Webb and Henry Fowle, of Boston, and Brother Snow, of Rhode Island, about the year 1801. Brother Benjamin Gleason, who was a student of Brother Webb, received them from him and embodied them in a private key of his own. About the year 1805, Brother Gleason was employed by the Grand [ ] of Massachusetts to teach them to all the Subordinate [ ] of that jurisdiction, and was paid for that service fifteen hundred dollars. To those lectures the Grand [ ] of Massachusetts still adheres, with a very slight variation in the Fellow-Craft and Master's Degrees.

"Brother Snow afterwards modified and changed the lectures he had received—mingling with them some changes from other sources—so that the system of lectures descending through him is not reliable.

"Brother Gleason was appointed Grand Lecturer of the Grand [ ] of Massachusetts in 1805, and that Grand [ ] appointed no other Grand Lecturer until 1842. He was a liberally educated man, graduated at Brown University in 1802, and was a public lecturer on Geography and Astronomy. He was a member of Mount Lebanon [ ] in Massachusetts, in 1807, and died in Concord, in that State, in 1847, at the age of 70 years. He visited England, and exemplified the Preston Lectures, as he had received them from Brother Webb, before the Grand [ ] of England, and the Masonic authorities of that Grand Body pronounced them correct.

"In the year 1817, Bro. John Barney, formerly of Charlotte, Vermont, went to Boston, and received the Preston Lectures there, as taught by Gleason, and as they were approved by the Grand [ ] of Massachusetts. I am unable to say whether he received them from Bro. Gleason himself, or from Bro. Henry Fowle. My impression is that he received them from Bro. Fowle. In possession of these lectures he returned to Vermont and at the Annual Communication of our Grand [ ] in October, 1817, visited that Grand Body and made known the fact. The subject was submitted to a committee for examination, which reported that these lectures 'were according to the most approved method of work in the United States,' and proposed to give Bro. Barney letters of recommendation 'to all [ ] and brethren, wherever he may wish to travel, as a brother well qualified to give useful Masonic information to any who may wish his services.' The Grand [ ] accepted and adopted the report of the committee, and Bro. Barney, under the recommendation thus given, visited many of the then existing [ ] of this State, and imparted to them a knowledge of these lectures. Among others, in the year 1818, he visited Dorchester [ ] in Vergennes, and imparted full instruction in them to R. W. Samuel Wilson, now and for several years past, Grand Lecturer of this State. Upon this occasion, Bro. Barney wrote out a portion of them in private key, and Bro. Wilson wrote out the remainder. Both were written in the same book, and that part written by Bro. Willson was examined carefully and approved by Bro. Barney. That original *manuscript* is still in existence and is now in possession of my son, Bro. Phillip C. Tucker, Jr., of Galveston, Texas, to whom Bro. Willson presented it a few years ago. Bro. W. has a perfect copy of it, and refers to it as authority in all cases of doubt. Bro. Gallup, of Liberty [ ], at Franklin, was one of the original Grand [ ] committee, and is still living to attest the correctness and identity of these lectures, as taught by Barney in 1817.

"These are the only lectures which have been sanctioned in this jurisdiction from October, 1817, to the present day."

As the "Barney Work" has its advocates and opponents in our own jurisdiction, we make the following further extract :


"Subsequently to 1818, Bro. Barney went to the Western and South Western States. He was a man in feeble health at the time, and pursued Masonic lecturing as a means of subsistence. Upon his return to this State a few years afterwards, he stated to his brethren here—as I have been credibly informed and believe—that he found different systems of lecturing prevailing at the West and Southwest, and that upon presenting the lectures he had been taught at Boston, in 1817, to different Grand Masters they were objected to; and that various Grand Masters would not sanction his lecturing in their jurisdictions, unless he would teach the lectures then existing among them; that desiring to pursue this occupation, he did learn the different systems of lecturing then existing in different States, and taught them in the different State jurisdictions, as desired by the different Grand Masters of each.

"This circumstance accounts for the strange disagreement between the East and West, and Southwest, as to what are the *true* Barney lectures. They meant one thing in New England, and another thing at the West."

The Grand Master concludes his address in the following words :

"My brethren, if any associated body of men ever had cause for thankfulness and gratitude to God for mercies received at his hand, it is the body I am now addressing. Contrast, for a moment, the state of Masonry in Vermont for the ten years previous to January, 1846, with the present. Our moral temple was in ruins; wall and pillar, pilaster and altar were prostrate in the dust; the plough of a worse than the Romans had made its furrows over them, and it was difficult to point out even where they had stood. Mourning over the prostrate ruins were the Haggais, Joshuas and Zerubbabels of those dark days of sorrow: the Haswells, Englesby, Butler, Hollenbeck, Lyon, Winch, Doane, Webster, Campbell, Rolfe, Murray, Platt, Nason, Wilson, Potter, Davenport, and a few others who had breasted the storm of desolation, and who, like the aged Jews at the erection of the second temple, continually prayed to see *their* second temple rise in all the glory of the first. Their prayers were heard and answered. Wall, arch and column, pillar, pilaster, and altar are restored. The beautiful architecture of our moral edifice again stands forth in renewed beauty to gratify the aged builders, no less than the new Craftsmen who have come up with plumb, square, level, trowel and gavel, to their aid. On every hand our moral vision is gratified by now beholding the masculine Doric, the chaste and graceful Ionic, and the exquisitely elegant Corinthian restored to their appropriate places in our beloved temples, and no one who contrasts their beauties with the desolation of other days and who has a genuine Masonic soul within him, can realize the strong force of the contrast and not send up to Him 'who bade our sacred temple rise,' the heartfelt voice of gratitude or the most inspiring strains of the spirit-kindling anthem."

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence present a lengthy and able report.

Minnesota is fraternally and handsomely noticed. In relation to the plan proposed by our Grand Master for a Masonic Congress, the committee acknowledge that its main features "are, perhaps, less cumbersome, and less objectionable than any heretofore proposed." Yet, they "are inclined to the opinion, that a careful study of the ancient landmarks of the Order, and a rigid adherence thereto, will do more towards promoting union and harmony among Masons and Grand , and settling questions of Masonic jurisprudence, than the organization of a Masonic Congress with merely delegated powers." Upon the "Bible test," the committee express themselves at length, and sum up as follows :



"Your committee would not make any new Masonic tests or sanctions—they would only urge that not a letter, word or symbol of Masonry should be changed; that whilst our ancient brethren placed the Holy Bible in the ☐ as an indispensable requisition to its proper constitution, we would let it remain, as it is, solemnly dedicated to God. We would neither remove it from its sacred place, nor admit for a moment, as argued by one committee, that an almanac will answer as well upon our Holy Altar. Nor would your committee require any *express declaration* of a belief in the Bible, as a prerequisite qualification of a candidate for our mysteries. Published as are our manuals to the world: patent as is the fact to all who will read aught of our Institution, that all our ceremonies are founded upon the Bible, and all our principles of morality, brotherly love, relief and truth, and virtue are drawn from its sacred pages; to the avowed 'unbeliever in religious faith,' Masonry can be naught but a cheat, a mockery, a fraud; its claims can have no binding force upon him—its teachings no form or comeliness in them, that he should desire them. Your committee can not, then, fully endorse the *legislation* of our brethren in Texas, Ohio, Nebraska, and other States, deeming *such* legislation unnecessary, and establishing a dangerous precedent in regard to all the landmarks of the Order; and because they deem the only declaration of faith which Masons demand a candidate should make before initiation, is his belief and trust in God. And yet we advance it as our opinion, that the relation between the Bible and Masonry, is so intimate, and so essential, that the man who declares his disbelief in the divine authenticity of that 'inestimable gift of God to man,' is a suitable subject for the exercise of the Mason's prerogative, the black ball."

We notice that the report was *adopted*, excepting "those portions of it which embrace the conclusions upon the question relating to the Bible," which were deemed of too much importance to be hastily passed upon, and were accordingly laid over until the next regular Communication of the Grand ☐.

#### VIRGINIA.

The address of M.: W.: G.: M.: Caldwell upon the opening of the Grand ☐, is very short, but gives a cheering picture of the condition of the Order, saying, "At no period of Masonic history in this country, my brethren, were the prospects of the Order more cheering than at the present time." He granted, during the year, twelve dispensations for new ☐, "which," he says, "if confirmed by this Grand ☐, will make the number of chartered ☐ in the State, one hundred and eighty-two." We find upon examining the returns, that eleven charters were granted, and that the registry number of ☐ is one hundred and eighty.

A committee to whom was referred the subject of "Reinstatements," &c., made a report, which was adopted, providing with minute particularity, for the reinstatement of suspended and expelled Masons, the substance of which is, that the reinstatement must be upon petition in writing; to be read at the first stated Communication after its reception, and then to lie over at least one month; the members of the ☐ must be notified of the application, and also to attend the Communication at which the petition is to be acted up-

on ; a two-thirds vote is necessary to reinstate a suspended Mason and a unanimous vote to reinstate an expelled Mason. Such reinstatement does not restore the brother to membership in the ☐ which suspended or expelled him ; and the ☐ which suspends or expels a Mason, is the only ☐ which can reinstate him. It strikes your committee that there is a manifest inconsistency in the rule that while the ☐ which expels is the only ☐ that can restore, yet such restoration does not include membership. It is a kind of turning adrift that can not be conducive to the well being of the Order ; for if the ☐ which knows all about the man, both within and without its portals, is unwilling to admit him, why should he be passed over to the Fraternity at large ? Let him remain expelled unless found worthy of re-affiliation right at home. When a ☐ makes a Mason it does not make him one for that ☐ alone, but admits him to the universal Brotherhood, and invests him with a claim upon the Craft "wheresoever dispersed." It is a worse than simply queer idea that a man is good enough to be a Mason, but is not good enough to be long to the ☐ which makes him one.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence acknowledge the reception of a large number of Proceedings and circulars, but do not notice them in detail. Considerable space is devoted to New York, and the committee say of the union lately effected in that long-time distracted jurisdiction, that, to them, "it appears to be nothing less than a bounty offered to rebellion, an encouragement to resist constitutional law, and a justification and reward for a continuance of illegal organizations !" We are of the opinion that our Virginia brethren do not accomplish any good end by their labored opposition to a thing that is done, can not be undone, and is so full of delicate points. New York could not be expected to discuss the matter, because by the articles of union all mouths are to be shut ; and the Fraternity at large, are only too rejoiced at the peace to arraign the mercy displayed by the peacemakers. It may be remembered that last year Brother O'Sullivan of Missouri, administered a severe rebuke to Virginia for refusing charity to an aged brother. The committee take it up and say that Brother O'Sullivan "has done neither justice to his own intelligence, nor to the motives of the Grand ☐ of Virginia. He knows, or should know, that she does not herself, nor will she permit any to invade the rights and privileges of her Subordinates ; they are taught their duty, and are expected and encouraged to discharge it in every particular."

The committee, in conclusion, make some good suggestions. The dangers to which popularity is exposing our Order, are vividly set forth. Uniformity in work and language is very strongly advocated.

We, too, would be glad to see it ; but what is the *old work*, and how is uniformity to be obtained, are questions that have almost as many answers as there are Grand □ jurisdictions. The committee advocate the "parrot" teaching, saying, "it has one merit, its antiquity," but the trouble is, each Grand Lecturer has a "parrot" system of his own, and after the *old work* has been thoroughly inculcated in his district, no two districts and no two lectures exactly agree. "Antiquity," is an arcanum from which so many new ideas are trundled out, that we sometimes almost wish it had never been discovered.

#### WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

We have the pleasure of introducing to this Grand □ another sister, and asking for her the customary welcome.\* Delegates from four □, which held charters granted by the Grand □ of Oregon, met on the 6th day of December last, in Convention, and after four days session, constituted and organized a Grand □, adopting a Constitution and electing Grand Officers. The Grand Master elect, M.: W.: Bro. T. F. McElroy, was installed by P.: M.: T. M. Reed, who was elected R.: W.: Grand Secretary.

Resolutions were passed necessary to putting the Grand □ in working order, and the following declaration was put upon the record, showing that this new Grand Body intends to prevent, at the outset, any mistake as to the status of "drones" within her jurisdiction :

"*Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Grand □, no Mason has a right to withdraw from a □, except for the purpose of becoming *immediately* a member of some other □, or for some of the reasons named in the Ancient Charges and Regulations ; and that any Mason who does so, acts in direct contravention to the spirit of Freemasonry, and is totally unworthy the regard of all well disposed Masons ; and therefore is not entitled to any of the benefits and privileges of the Fraternity."

#### WISCONSIN.

Seventy-five □ represented. The address of Grand Master Tracy is divided off under regular headings, and alludes, first : to the prosperity of the Order. He says : " At no period of time, since the organization of this Grand □, has there been greater caution used in the selection of materials, or a stronger, united effort made by all to elevate our Order to that pre-eminence to which she is so clearly entitled." Secondly, Communications. Thirdly, Dispensations. Eleven were granted for new □, and he assures the Grand □ that he had taken much pains to inform himself respecting the

\*This portion of the report was not read in Grand □, and in the hurry to "get through," the resolution of welcome intended to be passed was forgotten. The *forgetfulness* was confined to the formal passage of the resolution—the Grand □ of Washington Territory was remembered, and talked about among the brethren. G.: S.:

various localities. He says he has been frequently called upon for Dispensations to confer Degrees—to make, pass and raise at one Communication, but has acceded to the request in only three instances. “In all cases of refusal,” remarks the Grand Master, “the applicant had resided for years within the vicinity of a □, and could have availed himself of the opportunity of applying for Degrees at any time if he had so desired, but never thought it worth his while, until he had determined to visit Pike’s Peak, or some other such *El Dorado*, when he has suddenly become anxious to be made a Mason, not, as I take it, from a desire of knowledge and to render himself useful to his fellow beings, but from a desire to render them useful to himself. But few cases of real emergency ever occur—indeed, such cases are thought to be impossible. Instances may happen when it is expedient, although they must of necessity be few. The idea of conferring three Degrees upon the same candidate in one day or evening, is really ridiculous. Not one individual in one hundred, thus receiving their Degrees, ever becomes a bright and useful or even a tolerable Mason.” Lectures, Accounts, Grand □ Property, Chartered □, Public Processions, “N. P. of D.”—which we decipher to mean Non-payment of Dues—Non-Affiliated Masons, General Grand □, Arrearages, Finances, &c., &c., are severally noticed by the Grand Master. Under the heading “Caution,” he says: “The great bulwark of our Order is the *Black Ball*.”

The Committee on Returns report that returns were received from one hundred and seven □, showing six hundred and seventy-three initiations during the year, and a total membership of 3,363. P.: G.: M.: Baird, and P.: G.: S.: Smith were each presented with a jewel of gold. The occasion eliciting happy speeches. The Grand Master presented the credentials of P.: G.: M.: H. L. Palmer, as Representative of the Grand □ of Minnesota, near the Grand □ of Wisconsin, having in his address recommended the adoption of the Representative system. Bro. Palmer was subsequently officially received, and the G.: M.: was authorized to appoint a Representative on the part of Wisconsin near our Grand □.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence give the plan of our M.: W.: G.: M.: for a Masonic Congress in full, and say:

“Your committee have only to remark that the plan submitted is a very ingenious one. It seems carefully devised to remove objections that have been urged; but does it not leave Congress powerless or nearly so for good? \* \* \* Your committee are of those who consider a General Grand □ exceedingly desirable if that happy medium can be found which leaving Grand □ full power to direct the internal affairs of its Subordinates, can regulate in a proper and becoming manner the external relations of the Grand □ themselves.”

The Grand Master, on the contrary, opposes the plan of a General Grand □, but expresses no opinion upon the proposal for a Congress. The whole matter was referred to a committee, and that seems to have been the end of it.

[While these Proceedings have been in process of printing, the Grand Secretary has learned with painful regret, that R.: W.: Bro. John W. Hunt, Grand Secretary of the Grand □ of Wisconsin, has been summoned from his post by the "last enemy"—death. Thus are we afresh reminded that it is always well to say "good-bye," at parting—and to remember as we say it, what it possibly may mean!]

#### THE NORTH AMERICAN MASONIC CONGRESS.

This Body was organized at Chicago, in September last. We give the Proceedings of the Convention in full :

"In pursuance of previous notice to the various Grand □ of the United States, and in accordance with the expressed wish of delegates from many of said Grand □, a Masonic Convention assembled in the Masonic Temple, at Chicago, Illinois, on Tuesday evening, September 13th, 1859, at 7 o'clock.

"Bro. Rob Morris, of Kentucky, moved that Bro. Finlay M. King, of New York, be appointed President, which was unanimously agreed to.

"Bro. F. M. King on taking the chair, addressed the Convention as follows:

"Brethren :—I am very grateful to you for the honor you confer upon the State of New York, in the election of myself to the chairmanship of this National Convention. It is an honor of which any person might feel proud; for I discover that the Convention not only represents a large portion of the Masonic sovereignties of the Union, but that it is composed of gentlemen of the highest distinction in the different States from which you have come; and it embodies an amount of legislative and judicial talents and experience rarely combined in a national body. It is, to me, a most gratifying feature that, among the discordant notes that have been sounded from the political and religious organizations of the American Union, carrying in their vibrations, fear and apprehension to the patriotic minds of the country, there is, in this body, an evident disposition not only to fill up the breaches between different sections of the Union thus created, but to establish new bonds and ligaments that will strengthen and cement the ties that have bound the nation together.

"You have come here, brethren, not only as the representatives of the central States of our confederacy, but from different and distant portions of the country to interchange views, to compare opinions, and if possible to agree upon some plan that shall unite and harmonize and nationalize the Masonic Fraternity of the United States. While the history of the past has thrown a shadow of distrust upon all efforts of this kind—tending to establish a National organization in Symbolic Masonry, I have confidence to believe that if the result of your deliberations shall present a plan that will not impair the efficiency or sovereignty of the Grand □, that will be practicable and utilitarian in its movements and expected results, and will give a tone of nationality and unity to the Masonic sentiments of the country, it will receive, I think, and will deserve, the approval of the Grand □ of the United States.

"I await your pleasure for such action as the Convention may think proper to take.

"On motion, Bro. Rob Morris was appointed Secretary.

"On motion of Bro. Ira A. W. Buck, of Illinois, a roll of Grand □ was called, when it appeared the following were represented by delegates, as follows :

"Arkansas.—Luke E. Barber, E. H. English, Albert Pike, Gabriel McCowan.

"California.—Charles Marsh.

"District of Columbia.—B. B. French.

"Illinois.—Ira A. W. Buck, Levi Lusk, N. D. Elwood, H. G. Reynolds, Harrison Dills, A. W. Blakesley.

"Iowa.—J. R. Hartsock, T. S. Parvin, E. A. Guilbert.

"Louisiana.—J. Q. A. Fellows, H. R. Swasey, Samuel G. Risk.

"Maine.—A. B. Thompson, Cyril Pearl, Robt. P. Duulap, Freeman Bradford, Moses Dodge, John J. Bell, E. P. Burnham.

"Mississippi.—Giles M. Hillyer, M. S. Ward.

"Minnesota.—A. T. C. Pierson, R. S. Alden, (proxy for A. E. Ames,) G. W. Prescott.

"New Hampshire.—Moses Paul.

"New York.—John L. Lewis, Jr., Finlay M. King, James M. Austin.

"South Carolina.—Henry Buist, A. G. Mackey, David Ramsey.

"Vermont.—P. C. Tucker, Thomas H. Campbell, Gamaliel Washburn.

"When, on motion of Bro. John L. Lewis, Jr., it was ordered that such members of Grand [ ] who were present, and did not feel authorized to act as delegates of their respective Grand [ ], be invited to sit in the Convention as advisory members.

"Whereupon, the following brethren answered to their names, and were recorded as such, viz :—

"Alabama.—S. A. M. Wood, H. P. Watson, Daniel Sayer and E. Hastings.

"Ohio.—H. E. Stokes.

"Rhode Island.—Wm. C. Barker.

"Tennessee.—John Frizzell, James Penn, W. H. Whiton, R. S. Northcott, and H. Sheffield.

"Wisconsin.—L. M. Tracey.

"Bro. A. G. Mackey, of South Carolina, offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

"Resolved, That a Committee of five be appointed by the President, to prepare and present a plan of permanent organization ; said Committee to report to-morrow evening, at 7½ o'clock.

"The following members were appointed that Committee:—A. T. C. Pierson, of Minnesota ; Albert G. Mackey, of South Carolina ; John L. Lewis, Jr., of New York ; Philip C. Tucker, of Vermont ; Cyril Pearl, of Maine.

"On motion, the Convention then adjourned until to-morrow evening, at 7½ o'clock.

"FINLAY M. KING, Pres't.

"ROB MORRIS, Sec'y."

#### SECOND DAY.

"CHICAGO, Sept. 14th, 1859.

"The Convention was called to order at 7½ o'clock, p. m., by Bro. Finlay M. King, President.

"On motion of Bro. T. S. Parvin, of Iowa, Bros. Abner B. Thompson, of Maine, and J. Q. A. Fellows, of Louisiana, were appointed Vice Presidents.

"On motion of Bro. A. T. C. Pierson, of Minnesota, Bros. Sam'l G. Risk, of Louisiana, and S. A. M. Wood, of Alabama, were appointed Assistant Secretaries.

"On motion, Bro. Levi Lusk, of Illinois, was appointed Treasurer.

"Bro. A. T. C. Pierson, from the Committee appointed to draft a plan for permanent organization, submitted a report, which, on motion of Bro. B. B. French, was accepted.

"This report was then read, Article by Article, and several amendments being offered by Bros. Albert Pike, Giles M. Hillyer, Ira A. W. Buck, and accepted by the Committee, by unanimous consent, the plan was read as follows :

"In order to form a closer union and increase of harmony among the Grand [ ] of America—to secure and cultivate fraternal relations with the Grand [ ] of the world—to extend our knowledge of the History, Work, Symbol-



ism, Philosophy, and Jurisprudence of Craft Masonry; in order that questions of law and jurisdiction, may be equitably and permanently adjusted, that all agitated questions of general Masonic interest may be considered and determined for the general benefit of Masonry—we propose the following Articles of Association:

"ARTICLE 1. The Grand [ ] of North America do hereby form 'A North American Masonic Congress.'

"ART. 2. This Congress shall consist of three representatives from each Grand [ ] in North America assenting hereto; representatives to be selected as each of the Grand [ ] may severally determine.

"ART. 3. The Officers shall be a President, and a Senior and Junior Vice Presidents, and Secretary, who shall be elected at each session, and except the Secretary the official duties of each shall cease with the close of the session.

"ART. 4. There shall also be elected at each session three Permanent Committees, each consisting of five members.

"1st. Committee of International Correspondence.

"2nd. Committee of Work, Symbolism and Philosophy.

"3d. Committee of Jurisprudence, embracing Masonic History and Antiquities.

"The Chairmen of the several Committees shall constitute an Executive Committee to supervise and direct the correspondence, and in connection with the Secretary, to prepare reports and present business for the next meeting.

"The meetings of the Congress shall be called to order for organization by the Secretary, or in his absence by the Chairman of Committees in the order named.

ART. 5. Meetings shall be held triennially on the Friday preceding the 2nd Tuesday of September, and in such place as the Congress may from time to time determine.

"ART. 6. The representatives of a majority of the Grand [ ] associated shall be necessary to form a quorum.

"ART. 7. The Congress may take cognizance of all cases of difference which may occur between two or more Grand [ ]. Provided the parties shall mutually submit the said difference to its decision.

"ART. 8. The Congress may consult and advise on questions of Masonic Law and Jurisprudence to the end that a uniformity of law and usage may be accomplished, but it shall not assume the exercise of any power in the enforcement of its decrees except such as may result from the mere force of opinion.

"ART. 9. It shall be in order at any session of the Congress, to provide for the reading of papers or essays, or the delivery of discourses upon Masonic subjects.

"ART. 10. The incidental expenses of each Congress, necessary to the transaction of its business shall be borne by the Grand [ ] parties thereto, being equally divided among them.

"ART. 11. The ratification of these Articles by five Grand [ ] shall be sufficient for the organization of the Congress.

"ART. 12. No change in these Articles shall be made without the consent of three-fourths of the Grand [ ] parties thereto.

"ART. 13. Any Grand [ ] may become a member of this Congress by adopting the Articles of Association.

"ART. 14. Should any Grand [ ] desire to withdraw from this Congress, it can do so; but it is expected as a matter of Masonic courtesy, that it will adopt a resolution to that effect in open Grand [ ], and give notice thereof to the Secretary of the Congress.

"SUPPLEMENTARY ARTICLE. — When five Grand [ ] shall have ratified these Articles, pursuant to the provisions of Article 11th, and shall have notified a Secretary to be hereafter elected, of such decision, he shall thereupon issue a circular to the several Grand [ ] specified in Article 2d, inviting them to affiliate with this body, and to assemble in Congress at the City of Memphis, Tennessee, on the Friday preceding the 2d Tuesday of September, 1862.

"In testimony whereof, we the delegates to this Congress, have hereunto set our hands to the foregoing articles, at Chicago, in the State of Illinois, this

14th day of September, 1859, subject to the ratification thereof by our respective Grand [□].

"All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. T. C. PIERSON, A. G. MACKEY, PHILIP C. TUCKER, JOHN L. LEWIS, JR., CYRIL PEARL,	} Committee.
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"Bro. J. Q. A. Fellows then moved that the plan as read be adopted; when Bro. A. B. Thompson called for a vote of the Grand [□], which resulted as follows:

"*Ayes*—Arkansas, District of Columbia, Louisiana, Maine, Minnesota, New York, South Carolina, Vermont, Iowa.—Total, 9.\*

"Bro. G. M. Hillyer, of Miss, stated that the plan, as amended, met his personal approbation. In deference, however, to the known wishes of Mississippi, in opposition to a General Grand [□], or Central Confederation of Grand [□], he would refrain from voting; but expressed the hope that the jurisdiction he represented would, upon reflection, agree to the proposed association.

"*Noes*—Bro. N. D. Elwood, of Illinois, voted No, by instruction of his Grand [□], but would advocate the plan.

"Bro. Albert G. Mackey then moved that the Convention now proceed to the election of a Secretary, as provided by '*Supplementary Article*,' which was adopted.

"Bro. Sam'l G. Risk, of Louisiana, being then nominated, was unanimously elected said Secretary.

"Bro. E. H. English, of Alabama, moved that four members be added to the Committee on Plan of Organization, making a Committee of nine, who shall be a Committee of Correspondence; which was adopted.

"The Chair appointed the following brethren under the above motion, viz: Giles M. Hillyer, of Mississippi; E. H. English, of Arkansas; John Frizzell, of Tennessee; B. B. French, of District of Columbia.

"Bro. H. Buist, of South Carolina, offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Convention be and are hereby tendered to its President for the able, courteous, and dignified manner in which he has presided over its deliberations.

"On motion, the Committee on Correspondence were allowed sufficient time to prepare an Address to the Grand [□] of North America, to be appended to these proceedings.

"On motion of Bro. John L. Lewis, Jr., the Committee on Correspondence was continued, and with the Secretary elect, instructed and empowered to make arrangements, as provided for in Article 4 of the plan adopted, for the assembling of the Congress in 1862, in case of its ratification.

"On motion of Bro. A. G. Mackey, the Committee of Correspondence was with the President, empowered to read and approve the Minutes of this Convention, when prepared by the Secretaries.

"On motion it was ordered that five hundred copies of the Proceedings of this Convention be printed immediately for distribution, and that the same be paid for by *pro rata* subscription of the numerous parties thereto.

"On motion of Bro. P. C. Tucker, the Convention then adjourned *sine die*.

"FINLAY M. KING, President.

"ABNER B. THOMPSON, J. Q. A. FELLOWS,	} Vice Presidents.
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"ROB. MORRIS, Secretary.

"SAM'L G. RISK, S. A. M. WOOD,	} Assistant Secretaries.
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\*Several Representatives from other Grand Lodges, sitting as advisory members, and not feeling authorized to vote, expressed their full approbation of the plan, and had no doubt it would meet with the sanction of their respective Grand Bodies.

## ADDRESS.

*"To the Most Worshipful Grand Masters and Grand [ ] of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, on the Continent of North America:*

*"Fraternal Salutations:*

"By the action of a Convention of Grand [ ], begun and holden in the city of Chicago, Illinois, the 13th day of September, 1859, in response to a circular issued by the Grand [ ] of Maine, bearing date May, 1857, it is made the duty, as it is the pleasure, of the undersigned, to address you and invite your early and earnest attention to the Proceedings of the said Convention; asking that you will, after due consideration, take such action thereon as, in your wisdom, the interests of your distinguished Great Body and the interests of Craft Masonry seem to require.

"The Proceedings of the Convention, which form a part of the Circular, so fully define the objects of the organization, as to leave little for this Committee to say by way of explanation. The Articles of Association, in their most essential features, have been before the Grand [ ] of the country for nearly a year, in the Proceedings of the Grand [ ] of Minnesota, by her M<sup>r</sup>. W<sup>r</sup>. Grand Master, in response to the Circular from Maine. A careful comparison of those Articles with these now submitted for your consideration, will show the truth of our assertion, that they have been subjected to a patient and searching review, by five of our number, as well as the careful scrutiny of a very large Convention, representing nearly all the Grand [ ] of the United States, to which the largest liberty was allowed for criticism and amendment. We certify you that the articles agreed upon, and the course pursued in their adoption, give ample assurance of our desire to guard the rights, dignity and authority of the several Grand [ ], and to present the basis of an Association 'potent for good and impotent for evil,' on which they may safely unite in promoting the progress and prosperity of our ancient and cherished Fraternity.

"Nor need we devote much time or space to show that Craft Masonry has need of such an organization. In the face of all assertions to the contrary, we array the simple facts unfolded in the history of efforts to secure this object, so fully presented in the Proceedings of Minnesota, for 1858. We may also appeal to the able circular put forth by the Convention which formed the basis of a National Confederation in the City of Washington, in Jan. 1855.


"If we go back to the formation of our National Union, we find Pennsylvania nominating our distinguished brother, George Washington, as General Grand Master of Masons, and desiring the [ ] of the country to unite with her in placing him at the head of a General Grand [ ]. Georgia, in 1790, South Carolina in 1799, and Pennsylvania in 1809, endeavored to unite the Grand [ ] in a General Grand [ ]. In 1822, as the result of a Convention held in the city of Washington, a resolution was adopted declaring it 'expedient and for the general interests of the Order to constitute a General Grand [ ] of the United States.' The circular which was sent out to the Grand [ ] was signed by M<sup>r</sup>. W<sup>r</sup>. John Marshall, of Virginia; M<sup>r</sup>. W<sup>r</sup>. Henry Clay, of Kentucky; M<sup>r</sup>. W<sup>r</sup>. William Winder, of Maryland; Wm. S. Cardell, of New York; M<sup>r</sup>. W<sup>r</sup>. Joel Abbot, of Georgia; John Holmes, of Maine; Henry Baldwin, of Pennsylvania; John H. Eaton, of Tennessee; M<sup>r</sup>. W<sup>r</sup>. Wm. H. Seaton, of Washington; M<sup>r</sup>. W<sup>r</sup>. H. C. Burton, of North Carolina; M<sup>r</sup>. W<sup>r</sup>. Christopher Rankin, of Mississippi, and M<sup>r</sup>. W<sup>r</sup>. Rev. Thaddeus Mason Harris, of Massachusetts.

"As we turn to these early efforts and look back upon these venerable names, most of which are now transferred to 'the Records of the Silent [ ],' we are reminded of the words of one of our own living Poets,

'The dead govern—the living but obey.'<sup>8</sup>

"The thoughts, the convictions and aspirations of the dead now animate the hopes, inspire the purposes, and direct the energies of the living. It would seem almost disrespectful to their memory to seriously re-argue the question now, which they so well demonstrated in the maturity of their manhood.


<sup>8</sup>Albert Pike.

"It is true their appeal was unsuccessful. Their cherished object was defeated by adverse action on the part of some Grand . Some of the arguments by which the Masonic writers of that day defeated this effort, have been revived and republished in reply to the Maine Circular, as the best possible arguments against it. We mean no disrespect to the living or the dead when we say that the Circular signed by John Marshall, Henry Clay, and their illustrious compeers, remains to this day, unanswered and unanswerable; a monument of Masonic fidelity and sagacity, worthy of their legal, civic, and literary fame, and their moral worth.



"The Committee deem it unnecessary to urge the consideration that the objects aimed at by the Congress, are worthy of the most earnest efforts of the ablest minds of the age. These objects are so fully stated in the Articles of Confederation, as to need no enumeration. The whole field of Masonic labor and research, embracing all countries and all time, is before us, affording ample scope for our highest energies, leaving neither time nor motive, for profitless controversy or arbitrary legislation.

"The Masonic fraternity on this continent are in a course of resistless progress in numbers, in mental and moral force, with increasing desires for more light and a broader humanity. Our relations with the older nations, from which waves of population are flowing to us across the two great oceans of the world's commerce, are such as to render it increasingly desirable for us to know the condition and progress of our ancient Craft in those countries where it had long been cultivated before its altars were consecrated on these western shores.


"The practical question which all will weigh is, Will the experiment succeed? Will the objects aimed at be gained? If so, will the results justify the endeavor?

"That will depend upon those who make the investment, which need not be very expensive surely, if all or a majority of the Grand  shall cordially unite. The expense of representation need not be a burden, as the meetings will occur but once in three years, and at the same time with the General Grand Masonic bodies. There is an array of talent and learning now in the order, which, if called forth, may furnish a rich intellectual banquet at every meeting, and may accumulate rich treasures of Masonic lore to benefit ourselves and those who come after us.

"We believe that Freemasonry has yet a mission, an altar and a Priesthood, with a future more glorious than the past; and that the advancement of Christian Civilization, so far from superseding or rendering it obsolete, will but enlarge and elevate the sphere of its labor and make still higher demands for all the consecrated talent and Masonic skill we can train around our altars. Is it too much for us to ask a fair experiment for the organization here proposed?

"May we not hopefully invite all the Grand  on this continent to give their hand and heart to these Articles of Association, and meet us with a full representation of their highest wisdom and skill at the Congress proposed for 1862? With this cherished hope we ask that you will give an early response to this circular, so soon as your Grand  shall be able to consider and decide upon the subject herein presented.

"The committee also invite suggestions in relation to the subjects within the range of its inquiry, that may need the early attention of such a Congress.

"All communications in reply to this circular, should be addressed to the Chairman of this Committee, care of Ira Berry, Esq., G. Sec. of the Grand  of Maine, whose office is at Portland, Maine.

CYRIL PEARL, Maine.

A. T. C. PIERSON, Minnesota.

ALBERT G. MACKAY, South Carolina.

JOHN L. LEWIS, Jr., New York.

PHILIP C. TUCKER, Vermont.

GILES M. HILLYER, Mississippi.

BENJ. B. FRENCH, Dist. of Columbia.

ELBERT H. ENGLISH, Arkansas.

JOHN FRIZZELL, Tennessee."

Fraternally submitted,

GEO. W. PRESCOTT.